Tamil Arasu

MARCH, 1976 50 Ps.

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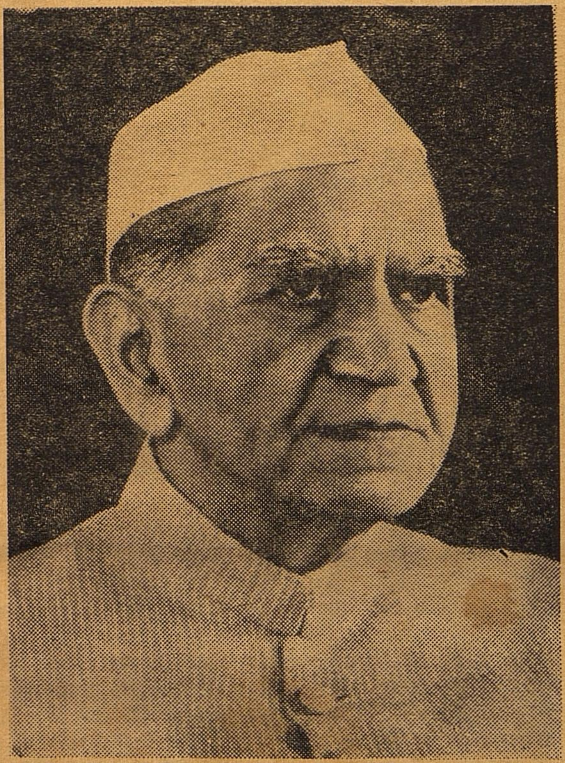
TAMIL NADU COMES UNDER PRESIDENT'S RULE



By a proclamation issued on 31—1—1976 under Article 356 of the Constitution, the President of the Republic of India took over the administration of the State of Tamil Nadu on the same day and dissolved the State Assembly. By another Order, the President has further directed that all the powers assumed by him shall be exercised by the Governor of Tamil Nadu "subject to my superintendence, direction and control."

The President in his proclamation said he had received a report from the Governor and after considering the report " and other information received by me, I am satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution."

COVER PAGE

The " Tamil Arasu " commemorates the visit of Prime Minister to Tamil Nadu, Feb. 13—15, 1976 with publication of her portrait as its cover page in this issue.

During one of the several engagements of the Prime Minister in the City, the Governor Shri K. K. Shah paid an appropriate tribute to the Prime Minister as follows :

"Thanks to her timely and imaginative leadership, India has been able to withstand the combined onslaught of internal reactionary forces and external pressure of the game of balance of power. The least we can do is to pledge to her our unstinted loyalty in the Herculean task that lies ahead."

FREE SUPPLEMENT

A booklet containing the full text of all the speeches of the Prime Minister during functions in the city and at Vellore is supplied as a free supplement.

Tamil Arasu

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NOTE.—The issue of Tamil Arasu for January and February, 1976 were not printed due to operational factors; appropriate extension will be given to subscribers.

PRIME MINISTER EXPLAINS REASONS FOR CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT

Referring to the change of Government during her mammoth public meeting at the Marina on 15—2—1976 the Prime Minister said :

" There has been a change of Government here. I have been asked many times in the last few days and specially since my arrival in Tamil Nadu, why I did not do this earlier. Allegations had been made by all the Opposition parties a long time ago and many times over. But I did not like to remove the Government during its period of tenure. At the same time, it was not possible to give them a fresh tenure without looking into these matters. Therefore, I wanted to wait till the end of five years. But we had news that they were planning all kinds of demonstrations and agitations from the first of February, the third, the fifth and so on. There is no doubt that had they been allowed to go through this programme, there would have been violence and they could have pretended to be martyrs. **I believe in acting in such a way as to prevent violence and with the least possible dislocation or disruption.**

" The other aspect was the infiltration of party members into every level of the administration and all kinds of other institutions such as the Hindu Religious and Endowments Board and so on. **You know that in our system, although the Government changes, the civil services, the administration and the bureaucracy remain the same and they have to put through the programmes of the Government.** This is the system which we have adopted. In some countries the system is different, that is, with every change of Government, everybody is changed. **But here there were deliberate attempts not to look at efficiency or qualification, but to put their own people in.**

At an earlier meeting in Madras, I had told the people how the development programme in Tamil Nadu had been going down. The tall claims made about general administration and about the 20-point programme have turned out to be quite hollow.

In the farmers' agitation 20 farmers were killed. Today I had a deputation from the Depressed Classes and they told me that when 42 of their people were burnt alive, the D.M.K. Government allowed the people responsible to go scot free.

Harijans Wronged :

Even for the Harijans, all the funds allotted by the Centre was not fully utilised. All these matters have been brought to my notice again this afternoon by the various people and groups and communities concerned. Tribal people came to me. Harijans and others have complained that although houses have been built for Harijans, they are still kept segregated, which is against our Constitution. The tribals feel neglected. When we announced the ending of bonded labour, we were told here that no such thing existed in Tamil Nadu. But today those people who came to see me have stated that it does exist and nothing has been done about it.

UNDISGUISED SEPARATISM

After the D.M.K. party was first elected, I was rather worried about some of the things which I have been hearing about their propaganda. But when I met Sri Anna he assured me that he did not want any kind of seccession or separatist policy. He met me many times and I was convinced that he would control anyone in his party who said anything which was against the unity of our great country. He realised his responsibility to Tamil Nadu as well as to India. In fact whenever he travelled abroad, he came to ask us about our foreign policy and wherever he went, he spoke in support of our policy. **But after his passing away, the new leaders chose to follow another path. I am told (since I do not know Tamil, I cannot say) all the reports we got were that, while one or two top people may not be talking about separatism, their other members were talking in a very undisguised open threat to the rest of the country.** There were mention of several Prime Ministers in India. There was mention of having foreign dealings and so on. I am sure, every Indian no matter whether he lives by the sea-shore or high Himalayas or in our plains, the deserts and the forests in between, will realise or recognise that any talk of secession is not only against the Constitution but it is something that no Indian can tolerate. **Anyone in a responsible position must be alert, every minute, every second of the day and night, not to do anything or say anything which could harm the country's interest whether within the country or affect its relationship with other countries.**

PRIME MINISTER REFUTES WRONG PROPAGANDA BY D.M.K. ON LANGUAGE & CULTURE

They (the D.M.K.) came to power on the language issue by spreading the wrong propaganda that the Centre was against Tamil culture or Tamil language. It is true that there are some parties in North India which were trying to coerce the people to learn Hindi, but it was not our party.

WE GIVE EQUAL RESPECT TO ALL LANGUAGES

We have from the beginning said that although we could appreciate having a national link language, we would not force or coerce anybody here to learn any language which he or she does not wish to. In fact, after our adoption of the three-language formula, many schools in the North are teaching Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Bengali and so on. We have made it quite clear to all our people that our policy is what it was before Independence and it remains the same. That is, we give equal respect to all the languages of India and we give funds and help to develop all these languages and their literature.

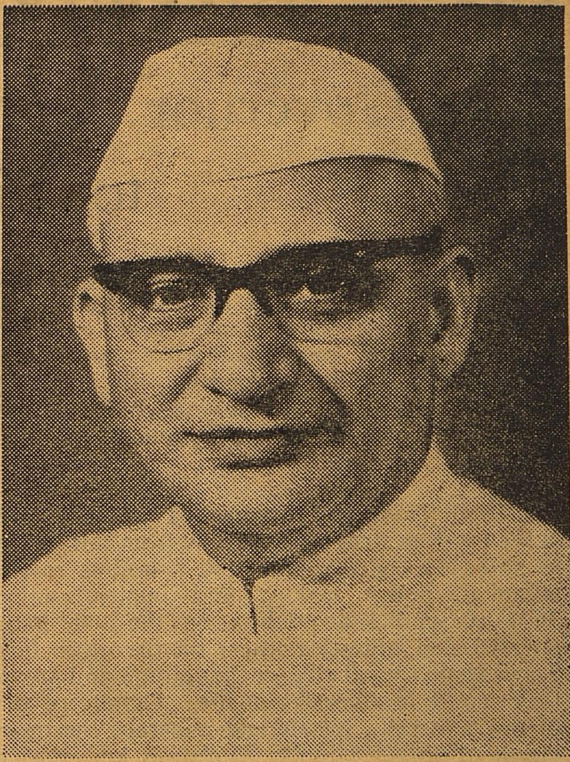
WE MAKE TAMIL AVAILABLE FOR ALL

Tamil is one of the most ancient languages of India. It is a beutiful language, a powerful language. We are doing our best for it. The Sahitya Academy is translating all the old and new books in Tamil so that those who do not know the language will have the privilege and pleasure of getting familiar with its writings.

FREE TO DEVELOP CULTURAL INDIVIDUALITY

We believe that each region of India — whether it is a small region or a big region — should be free to develop its own culture and its own individuality. And in no way does it interfere with the over-all unity of India or the feeling of oneness between one Indian and another.

—Excerpts from Prime Minister's speech at the Marina, Madras on 15—2—1976.



PRESIDENT'S RULE HAILED AS DAY OF DELIVERANCE SAYS GOVERNOR

Referring to the erstwhile administration during a T.V. talk on 17—2—1976 the Governor said :

" There was a time when Tamil Nadu Services were known for efficiency and integrity. Unluckily, during the last nine years, the morale has been considerably affected. Undue interference for political purposes has sapped their enthusiasm. Corruption on a large scale has sapped their enthusiasm. Corruption on a large scale inevitably eroded the foundations of impartiality and efficiency. **The fact that all over Tamil Nadu, President's rule has been celebrated as a day of deliverance is eloquent proof of how agonising the pressure was. President's rule has revived hopes of the people was amply demonstrated by the huge reception given to the Prime Minister and by the attendance of millions in the meeting at the Marina. It was more a demonstration of feeling of relief.** The heart of Services is sound, but to restore them to original efficiency and integrity of high level will require continuous vigilance, hard work and dedication. We propose to tackle this task to the satisfaction of both the Services and the people."

ERA OF INTEGRITY & PROSPERITY

Governor Confers with Collectors to discuss Steps

The main purpose of our meeting is to take stock of the situation in Tamil Nadu and to chalk out a constructive plan to usher in an era of progress and prosperity while maintaining peace, discipline and integrity with effiicency. I have necessarily to talk to you about the past if the task that I intend spelling out to you is to be correctly understood.

Tamil Nadu had occupied a pride of place in the freedom struggle and many from this region, in post-independence era, took a leading role in planning, policy making and implementation. Scientists and Industrialists on the one hand, talented and trained workers on the other from Tamil Nadu spread all over the country and proved their mettle in all walks of life. Despite paucity of raw materials, metals and minerals, the broad vision of earlier popular Ministries and efficient administrative machinery, backed by the enterprising skill of entrepreneurs and urge of the people for a better living in Free India, Tamil Nadu had a leap forward and her economic growth during the first three Five-Year Plans was stupendous, and occupied an enviable position in the All India picture.

Decline Dates from 1969 :

During the **past six years** however, Tamil Nadu lost its coveted place in the industrial map of the country and **swerved from the set path, deviated from the national ideals, virtues and values and suffered a set back.** The per capita plan investment in our State touched a low ebb. Efficiency and integrity in Public life were made hand maid of corruption and malpractices and the cannons of democratic life were sent on holidays. The famous saying of Lord Acton was reflected in elected authorities in Tamil Nadu and dictum of Gandhiji that " means should determine the end " was observed in default. **Good counsels were rejected as signs of weakness.**

Please do not treat this meeting as a routine annual gathering of District Collectors and Police Officers. Time was when the Collector was the most hard-worked individual of all the executives of the Government ; but things have changed for better now and he has now time to co-ordinate, inspire, enlighten and enforce and involve the team of Officers under him in the tasks of building a new India of our dreams. The 20-Point Programme has come to-day as charter of the Nation for effective and quick implementation of various development and employment-oriented programmes. **It will be the responsibility of the Collectors to carry out this programme effectively and expeditiously.**

Neglect of Common Man Not to be Allowed :

On the food front, we have luckily a bumper harvest but we have to be wise in planning increased production, sounder policy of procurement and distribution and ensuring remunerative prices for the producer and fair price to the consumer. We have now sufficient food stock on hand and with the completion of procurement, the Civil Supplies Corporation will have a marketable surplus. This should give no room for complacency. The public distribution channels have to be stream-lined and kept flowing with adequate supplies. We have 9,926 retail out-lets for sale of not only foodgrains but also for sale of other essential commodities like sugar, wheat, etc. The tightening of machinery at the borders and vigilance by the Food Cell will help to hold the price line. We have been receiving reports that some of the retail shop-keepers do not display price-lists and some indulge in artificial scarcity by hoarding and cornering. I have already warned them that Government will not hesitate to use MISA against black sheep amongst them. Surprise checks and effective supervision alone can ensure benefits of bumper harvest to the common man. **I look to you to create a climate in the Services that the common man is our master and that no one will be allowed to neglect his interest.** Power supply this year, I expect, will be adequate for our requirements. Determined steps have already been initiated to secure the maximum generation out of our installed capacity. We have also reached an agreement with Kerala to buy the surplus power from that State. Energising pump-sets and rural electrification will receive high priority.

Adopt National Guide-Lines in Land Reforms :

We have to initiate positive action to plug the loop-holes in land reforms measures and adopt the all-India pattern. There is every possibility of a large chunk of additional land being made available if national guide lines are followed. We propose to undertake this task immediately. The problem of bonded labour has to be taken up at once not only in the Nilgiris District where there are more than 5,000 bonded labourers but also in the rest of Tamil Nadu. Collectors have to investigate in detail and collect data for remedial measures. Welfare measures will be pursued with added vigour and additional assistance. The Harijans and Scheduled Tribes who are the weaker links in our society will have their due share of the fruits of development and will be enabled to participate effectively in all areas of developmental activity. **Care should be taken to ensure that Harijans are not segregated by shifting them from their original place.** It is time we make

a new approach to this question of vital importance in accordance with our plan for social integration.

Centre's Help for Handloom Industry :

Handlooms play a vital role in the economy of the State. One-third of our total requirement of cloth is provided by this sector. Though Tamil Nadu has only 15 per cent of the looms in the country, this State accounts for 50 per cent of the total export. I am happy that the Government of India is devoting appropriate attention to this Sector and, has sanctioned a new Handloom Export Centre for being set up in Madras. The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulations) Bill passed by the Parliament would be extended to Tamil Nadu, with suitable adaptations. We have to implement this scheme in letter and spirit. Any step by the land owners to circumvent the law should be checked by firm and effective action.

My Advisers Thiru P. K. Dave and Thiru R. V. Subramanian have had discussions with the senior members of the Union Government and the Planning Commission and have come back with promising hopes and positive programmes. **The Plan Out-lay during the Fifth-Plan will be increased so as to enable the economy to gather fresh momentum,** thanks to the consideration shown by the Central Government who have agreed to a significant step up in the Annual Plan for 1976—77.

Central Investments in Tamil Nadu :

The Government of India have agreed to increase the quantum of allocation for Salem Plant and are actively considering a few more industrial Projects. The Seamless Tube Project at Trichy under BHEL with an investment of Rs. 53 crores has been announced. Tamil Nadu, will continue to have its due share of Central investments and developmental projects.

We have to think in positive terms to accelerate the pace of industrial production and increased investment and to generate confidence in the minds of the entrepreneurs for mobilising their resources for diversifying their industrial structure and for maximising the output. In the industrial relations we have made satisfactory progress during the last 15 days. A number of disputes have been settled. Strikes have been withdrawn. Lock outs have been lifted. Efforts are under way to have industrial disputes resolved in the few remaining industries in a manner acceptable both to labour and management. Availability of raw material, power and good industrial relations provide the necessary impetus for increased production. The economy of the closed units will have to be made viable and ways and means will have to be devised to reopen them.

Ensure Payment of Enhanced Rural Wages :

Rural areas suffer from the scourges ofindebtedness and usurious interest. Immediate steps are called for to liquidate this rural indebtedness and to provide alternative channels of credit facilities. **It is high time that not only minimum wages are fixed but adequate machinery is set up to see that they are paid.** The chronically drought prone districts need special and immediate attention.

The Wasted Funds of the Past :

Huge amounts had been spent in the past without generating visible and stable assets. We have to evolve appropriate measures to tackle the problem of drought on a permanent and priority basis and stabilise the situation in these areas. We have still about 5,000 villages without provision of drinking water. Immediate steps have to be taken to provide drinking water in chronically drought affected areas and to reach the others in its shortest possible time. Inspite of bumper harvest in most of Tamil Nadu, there are some pockets where severe drought conditions are prevailing. We will have to take effective steps to help them in every possible way. There are some irrigation schemes which are processed and are pending which can solve the problem of these perennial drought affected areas. Top priority will be given to them.

The Generous offer of neighbouring States :

The generous offer of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka announced by the Prime Minister to give a total of 15 tmc feet of water to Madras from the Krishna is most timely. Our grateful thanks are due to our esteemed Prime Minister for having secured for our city a dependable source of water to meet our growing needs. I have also conveyed my thanks to the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka. Steps have already been initiated to follow up this offer with discussions on the modalities of availing ourselves of this water. Detailed survey and investigation on the project will begin shortly.

Our New Priorities :

Priority has to be assigned to drinking water, rural sanitation and health, housing for the weaker sections and distribution of land and assignment of house-sites for the landless.

I wish to assure you that every effort will be made to encourage initiative, promote honesty and efficiency and to cultivate a psychology of service to the common man. Let us assure the common man that what will matter is merit of the case and that every effort will be made to serve him impartially, efficiently and expeditiously. Tamil Nadu, I have no doubt, will earn the distinction of a pace setter not only for effective implementation of 20-Point Programme but for providing a model to rural reconstruction and fighting poverty. The Somangalam project of rural reconstruction consisting of 10 villages inaugurated by the Prime Minister has not only to be made a show piece for the rest of the country to follow but has to be the beginning of a State-wide rural reconstruction. **I have pinned my hopes on your efficiency, integrity and co-operation and I have no doubt that they will be willingly available in abundance.**

—Excerpts from the address of Shri K. K. Shah, Governor of Tamil Nadu at the Collector's Conference on 27—2—1976.

PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE GIVEN TO 20—POINT PROGRAMME

The Governor and the Advisers consider the implementation of the 20-Point economic programme as of paramount importance and therefore at the State level in the Secretariat, the Second Secretary to Government, has been nominated as the Officer responsible for the co-ordinated implementation of the programme. It has also been emphasised that every Secretary to Government and every Head of the Department concerned with the 20-point economic programme would be wholly responsible for the implementation of the programme which concerns him. At the District level, the Government would be setting up a co-ordinating committee probably with the Collector as the Chairman and the District Heads of each Department concerned with the 20-point economic programme as members. There would be a periodical review by the Collectors. At this Committee meeting, such corrective measures that may be called for, would be adopted.

The 20-point economic programme of the Prime Minister embraces the vital and vulnerable sectors of human activity. Land sustains millions Hence land reforms and their enforcement strictly and effectively is an important item of the 20-point economic programme. Public statements and slogans will have no meaning unless the persons who are to benefit by the policies of the Government indeed derive those benefits. Hence whether it be assignment of land or Tenancy rights, benefits conferred by such legislation should be translated on the ground and the persons put in possession of such rights. In the matter of house-sites, the independence which it confers on the individual by formal assignment and putting the individual in possession, has to be recognised and in that spirit action should be taken. In the context of the comfortable food situation prevailing in the State, the Police establishment earmarked for food offences, can well be diverted to attend to matters pertaining to Civil Supplies which forms part of the 20-point economic programme and also be responsible for giving the necessary direction and to exercise control in regard to the offences relating to adulteration and of short weights and measures.

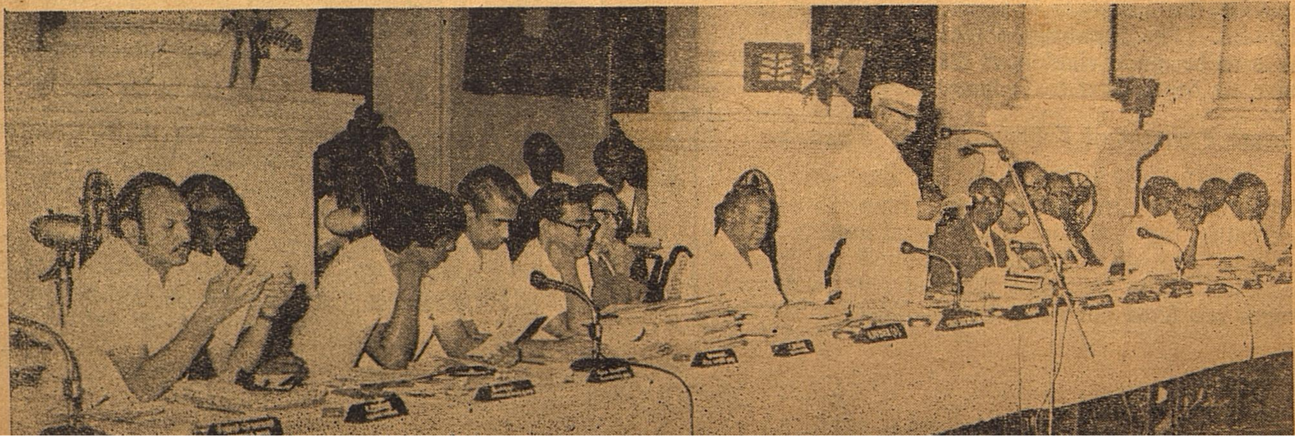
—*(Chief Secretary at Collectors' Conference on 27—2—1976)...*

At the end of the Collectors' Conference the following measures were decided upon for better implementation of the 20 Point Programme :

As a comprehensive Debt relief legislation on the lines of Prime Minister's 20 Point Programme is on the anvil, the Co-operative Institutions have been asked to increase the availability of jewel loans by reducing the ceiling on such loans to Rs. 1,000/-. As a supporting step, the Reserve Bank of India has been addressed to permit Co-operative banks to avail larger volume of credit for this purpose. The Collectors have also been instructed to exercise close control over pawn brokers to prevent foreclosing of loans by pawnbrokers or the fabrication of new documents to evade the law. The Collectors have been instructed to bring in, the entire rural population under Co-operative fold, and to see that in sanctioning loans preference is given to those who have not so far been given loans.

In order to help the handloom weavers, strict enforcement of the present reservation orders regarding production of certain varieties of cloth on handloom has been ordered. Also handloom weavers would be helped in the supply of yarns and marketing of the products in a more effective and vigorous manner.

The conference gave very strict guide lines in the matter of housing the Harijan population. House sites are to be acquired only in such places, as to ensure that there is no longer the glaring instances of segregation, seen in the Harijan Housing Schemes of the recent past. The Collectors have been assured of adequately enhanced funds for this purpose in the coming year. This work will be dove-tailed with the work of the Housing Board. In addition, it was ordered that the Board Members assigned to each district for general supervision of the district-level implementation of the 20-Point economic programme, would devote specific attention to the selection and quick utilisation of sites for housing Harijans. The Board members concerned would periodically submit reports on this aspect to the Government.



Quick Results in 30 days of President's Rule

* PRICES of Food and other commodities come tumbling down.

* Surprise raids by Governor and Civil Supplies Officials ensure quality and fair price for all consumer articles.

* All pending Labour Disputes and Lock-outs resolved to benefit 24,000 workers involved.

* In 88 out of 204 big factories workers participation has come into being. Apprenticeship vacancies have been located for absorbing 7781 trained youth.

* Minimum wages have been fixed and announced for all types of agricultural labour.

* Debt Relief made available for agriculturists and economically weaker sections by moratorium till January 15, 1977.

THE SOMANGALAM RURAL RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT INAUGURATED TO DEMONSTRATE EFFECTIVENESS OF 20—POINT PLAN.

To demonstrate that the 20 Point programme is an effective instrument for rural reconstruction and fighting poverty, the Tamil Nadu Government had undertaken the Somangalam Rural Reconstruction Project in Chengalpattu District. It was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 15-2-76. It is proposed to concentrate all attention on this project and make it a show piece for the rest of India and to convince that the income of each family in the cluster of 10 villages comprised in the Somangalam Project situated in a very backward area suffering from all the handicaps of backwardness, can be stepped up to Rs. 400/- per annum with the help of the existing measures and with the help of non-official institutions, Nationalised Banks, I.I.T. and experienced institutions like Gandhigram.

Before the Project was launched, the architect of the Project, Shri K.K. Shah, the Governor of Tamil Nadu had organised a family survey in the group of 10 villages in and around Somangalam village in Kunrathur Panchayat Union in Chingleput district under the guidance of the personnel drawn from Gandhigram at Madurai. Based on the survey, a draft plan of action was prepared. **As stated earlier it is proposed to demonstrate how the 20-Point Economic Programme of the Prime Minister can be effectively utilised for rural reconstruction.** In fact, the 20-Point Economic Programme made it possible to plan this project. The success of the project will vividly demonstrate the tremendous potentialities of 20 Point Economic Programme in fighting poverty. This plan provides for raising the standard of living of every family by providing opportunities for raising the output of their farm by employing modern means of production and by giving their members opportunities for employment in the fields of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Adult Education, Rural Industries, Health and Sanitation. Sinking of of wells, organisation of a Milk Co-operative Society, setting up of balwadis, provision of an Agro Engineering Service Centre and setting up of a complex of small scale industries are some of the major projects contemplated. In order to conserve energy and to promote use of non conventional energy sources, it is proposed to introduce Gobar gas plants. Based on the needs of the people and the local resources available, detailed development plans have been prepared for various sectors and will be implemented both by the Government Departments concerned and by Voluntary consruction agencies. The Plan seeks to lay particular emphasis on agricultural production.

The project area comprises 10 revenue villages with a total area of 12,200 acres and having a total population of about 12,000. Only 4000 acres in the Project Area are served by the 19 tanks, while the rest are irrigated by 211 wells, of which 110 are energised. The outlay on the project will be substantially financed by assistance from commercial banks, voluntary organisations and co-operative institutions with the balance being met from the Plan provisions of various sectors. Voluntary contribution from the people of the village will also play its role. Within 10 days of inauguration details have been chalked out and orders given for digging 100 new wells with provision for energising 50 of them immediately

An extensive effort to cross breed the cattle in the area would be undertaken soon. There are 5,500 cattle in the Somangalam group of villages. Also within 10 days of inauguration, the coverage by Co-operative Societies in this area had increased from 25 per cent to about 75 per cent. There are four Co-operative Societies — two credit societies and the other two agricultural societies. Adequacy of fertilisers has been ensured and by 1st of March inputs for Swarnawari crop would be made available. The National Co-operative Development Corporation has come forward to give Rs. 55,000 as subsidy for godowns. The Co-operative Societies would also engage in distribution of consumer articles.

Eight Milk Producers Societies are proposed to be organised in eight of the 10 villages. Enough fodder would also be made available. According to survey conducted, there has been good response for backyard poultry units, though the emphasis will be on viable poultry units and the 300 identified Small and Marginal Farmers are being encouraged to undertake Poultry raised on a Commercial basis.

Ten Balwadies will be started by May this year. Free balahar would be distributed to the children. These balwadies would be functioning in co-operation with the Primary Health Centre. Emphasis would be given to functional literacy as well. All the ten villages are electrified and at present 187 domestic connections, 123 pump set connections, six industrial connections and 295 street light connections are given. Seven more domestic connections, one industrial connection, 52 pump set connections and 70 street light connections are being given.

An agro engineering service sub centre has been opened in Somangalam village. It would attend to repair, maintenance and running of tractors and other agricultural equipments.

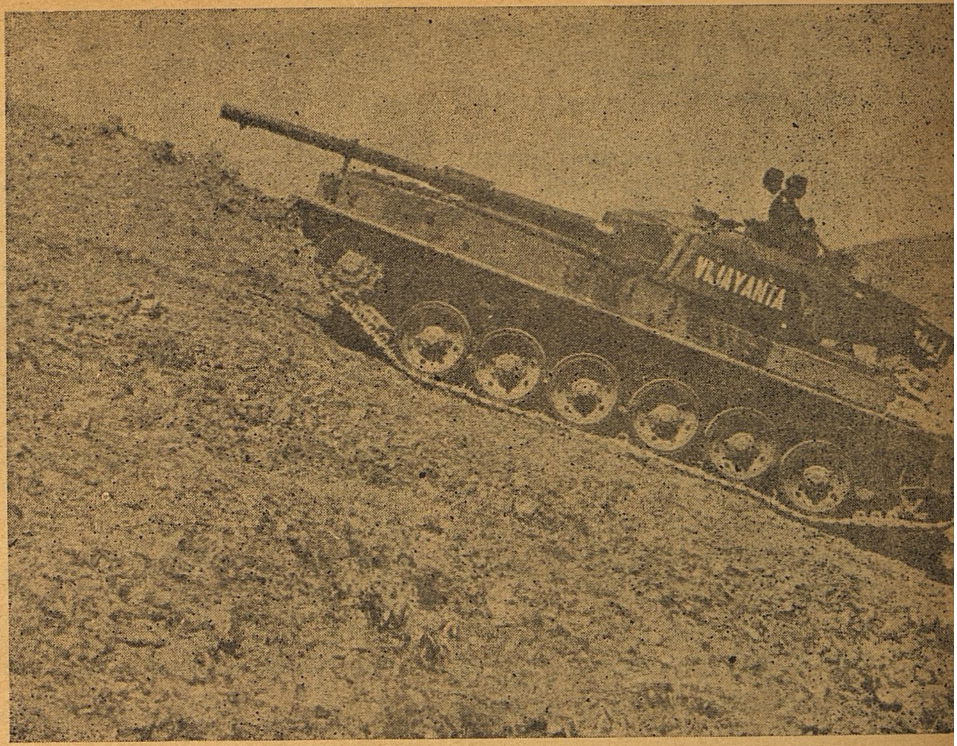
Improving the Somangalam—Tambaram road would be taken up soon. Mini buses will be introduced in the villages as soon as the traffic potential is assessed.

Training artisans in mat weaving, tailoring and match industries is another scheme which has been taken up. Government Departments like Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Co-operation, Milk Development, Industry will be associated with the development activities of the area. These Departments will utilise their plan provisions to the extent necessary to concentrate activities in this region.

The work of co-ordinating the various agencies at the block level will be done by the panchayat union and its set up. This set up will be strengthened suitably. Some essential Project staff have also been sanctioned. At District level the Collector of the District will be in over-all charges of the Programme. He will co-ordinate and supervise the activities in this area. He will be assisted by a Committee consisting of representatives of Departments of the Government and voluntary agencies.

As this is a pilot project, the activities in this Project will be carefully monitored at short intervals. Follow up activities will also be undertaken as and when necessary. The results of the functioning of the Project will be periodically assessed so as to help to draw lessons, which will be useful when similar Projects are implemented in other areas of the State.

THE HUGE PRESTIGIOUS CENTRAL GOVT. PROJECTS IN TAMIL NADU



The Vijayanta Tank is made in the sprawling H. V. Factory in Avadi

THEY HAVE PLAYED ROLE OF CATALYST IN INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS OF OUR STATE

The achievement of Tamil Nadu in industrial development is in no small measure due to huge investments made by the Central Government. Under the Five Year Plans the Centre has set up many industries in the public sector in Tamil Nadu. At present there are as many as 11 units in public sector sponsored by the Centre. These undertakings are : (*i*) Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. ; (*ii*) Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd. ; (*iii*) Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd. ; (*iv*) Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. ; (*v*) Indian Rare Earths Ltd. ; (*vi*) Madras Fertilisers Ltd. ; (*vii*) Madras Refineries Ltd. ; (*viii*) Modern Bakeries (India) Ltd. ; (*ix*) Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. ; (*x*) Oil and Natural Gas Commission and (*xi*) Richardson and Cruddas Ltd.

The investments made by the Central Government upto 31st March, 1973 in public sector undertakings in Tamil Nadu amounted to Rs. 352.6 crores (Gross fixed assets). **The State is one of the five largest beneficiaries in terms of Central investments in the public sector,** the other four States being Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Orissa where, unlike Tamil Nadu, the availability of mineral wealth is bountiful.

Apart from these public sector units functioning as corporations, there are many other units run departmentally by the Central Government. The most important among these units are the Integral Coach Factory at Perambur under the Ministry of Railways, the Heavy Vehicles Factory at Avadi under the Ministry of Defence and the Madras Atomic Power Station under the Department of Atomic Energy. 3 out 25 Defence Units are in our State. Besides the Heavy Vehicles Factory three more major ordnance factories out of 25 such units for the whole country are located in Tamil Nadu. The three ordnance units are : (*i*) Small Arms Ordnance Factory at Tiruchirappalli ; (*ii*) Cordite Factory at Aravankadu and (*iii*) Clothing Ordnance Factory at Avadi.

Among the important national laboratories two are situated in Tamil Nadu. These are the Electro-Chemical Research Institute at Karaikudi and Leather Reerach Institute in Madras. Besides these laboratories, there are a number of regional units in Tamil Nadu of many national research institutions.

The Harbour at Tuticorin mothers Rs. 250 crores worth Industries

In addition to the expansion of the Madras harbour, a new harbour has been constructed at Tuticorin at a cost of more than Rs. 30 crores to serve the economic needs of the hinterland where many industries, especially chemical industries, are being set up. The Central Government itself is constructing one heavy water plant at Tut corin.

A steel plant at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 818 crores is being set up at Salem for the production of 1,95,000 tonnes of sheet and strip products comprising 70,000 tonnes of sta nless steel, 75,000 tonnes of electrical steel and 50,000 tonnes of other spec al steels.

In order to help the ailing textile industry in Tamil Nadu, the Central Government took over the management of six textile mills. Upto March, 1974, there were 14 sick textile mills under the control of the National Textile Corporation Ltd. All the sick textile mills under the management of the Government have now been nationalised.

The contribution of the Central Units in Tamil Nadu to the economy of the State is considerable. Apart

from employing hundreds of thousands of people, the units have generated vast employment potential in ancillary industries.

The most outstanding contribution of the Central Public Sector units to the State's economy is the supply of electricity to the power-starved State. The Neyveli Lignite Corporation's power station alone accounts for 40 per cent of the total electricity flowing through the Tamil Nadu State Grid. To meet the growing demand for power, an atomic power station with an installed capacity of 470 MW is being set up at Kalpakkam, The Kalpakkam atomic power plant when it starts producing power will go a long way in meeting the power requirements in the State.

The profiles of some of the Central units and their role in promoting the economy of the States are given below :

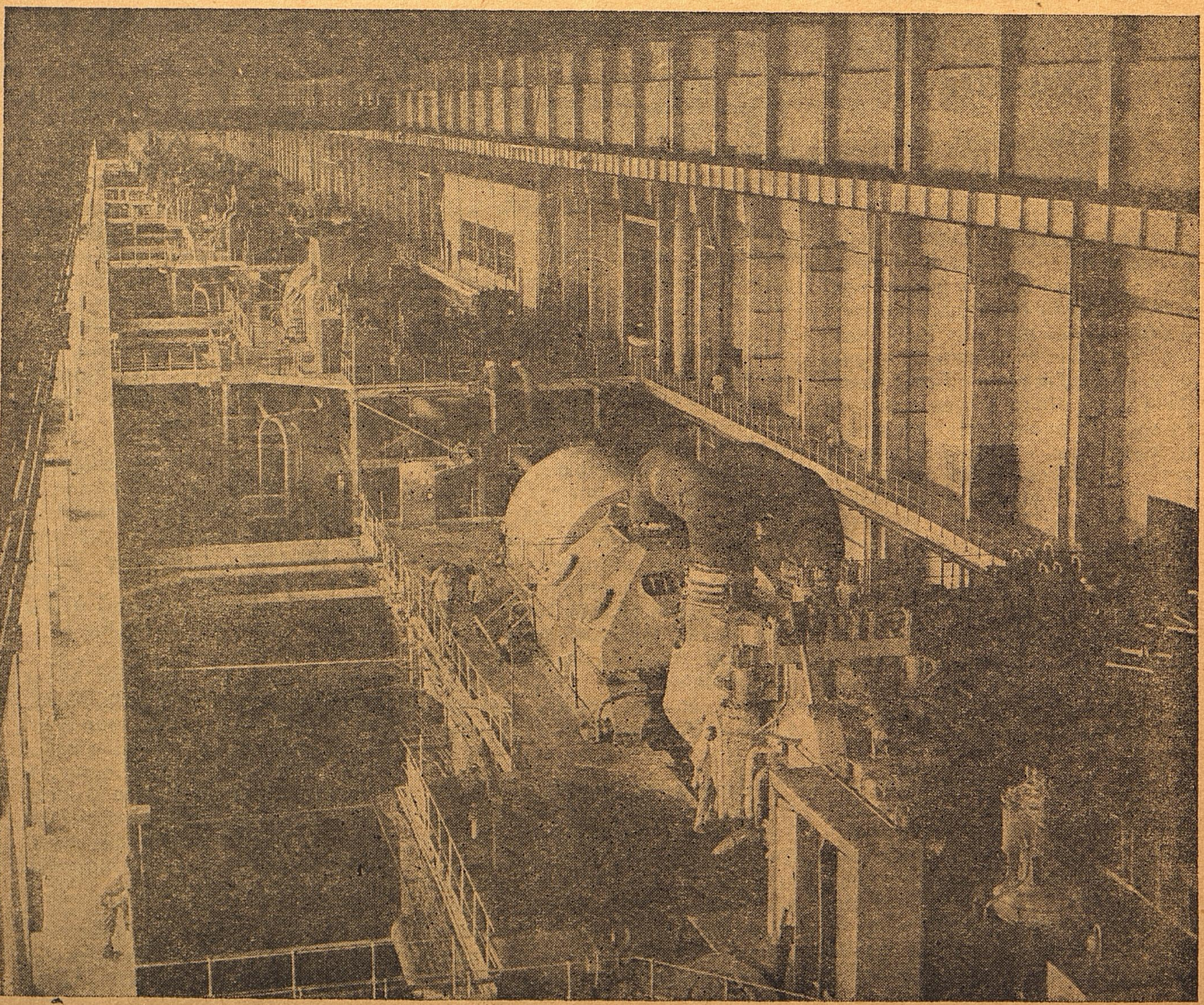
NEYVELI LIGNITE CORPORATION LTD.

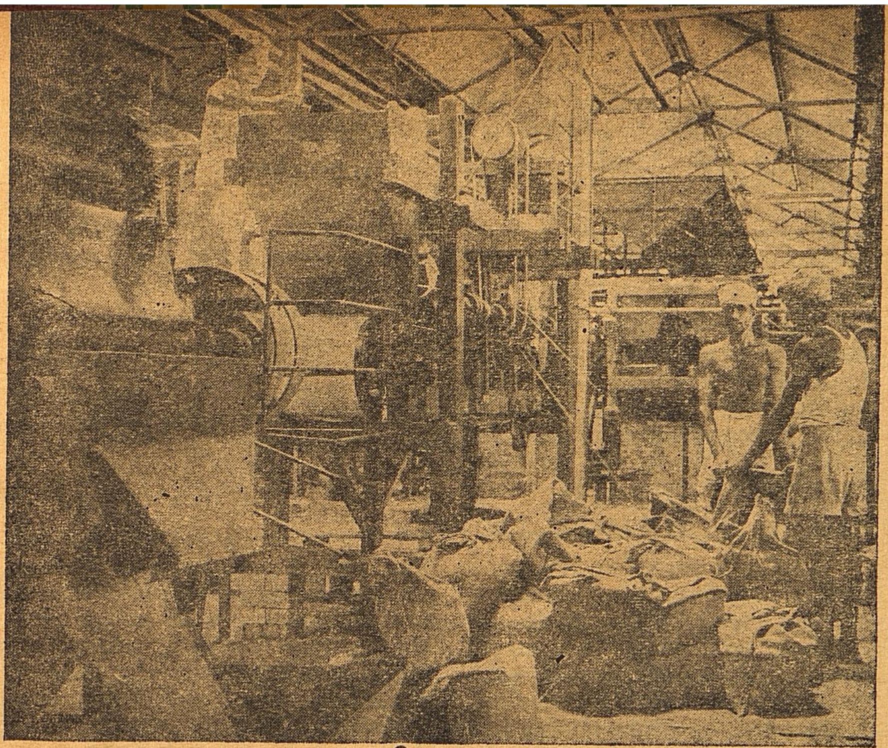
The complex is an integrated unit for mining lignite and using lignite to produce power, fertilisers, lignite briquettes and a number of by-products. The cost of the project after expansion is estimated at Rs. 178 crores. There are about 18,000 regular employees working in the plants of the Corporation.

The Neyveli Lignite Corporation has acquired added importance due to the projected steel plant coming up nearby at Salem. The lignite from Neyveli will be used in the Salem Steel Plant. During 1973—74, the production of lignite was 33.29 lakh tonnes. In May, 1973 an additional investment of Rs. 11.62 crores was sanctioned to raise the production of lignite to 45 lakh tonnes. Again, Rs. 87 crores was sanctioned for raising the lignite production to 65 lakh tonnes.

The lignite based power station at Neyveli is the second biggest thermal power station in the country. With an installed capacity of 600MW the power station accounts for 40 per cent of the total electricity flowing through Tamil Nadu State Grid. The entire power generated by the thermal station, except for the requirements of the Corporation and its township, is fed into the Tamil Nadu Grid. Upto March 1974, about 16,500 million units out of the total power generation of 18,956 million units were supplied to Tamil Nadu. In fact, during the worst power shortage in Tamil Nadu, the Corporation's power station came to the rescue of the State

The leabyrinth of generatons at Neyveli which account for about 40 per cent of power generated in the State





Rare Earths Factory in Kanyakumari Dt.

even by restricting the lignite consumption for fertiliser plant and Leco (domestic fuel).

The fertiliser plant of the Corporation based on lignite feed stock commenced regular production of urea in March 1966. The production during 1972—73 was 45,782 tonnes. Upto March 1974, it had produced a total of 47.05 lakh tonnes of urea.

Till March 1973 a total of 5.94 lakh tonnes of Leco was produced. Leco is used as domestic fuel in Tamil Nadu and in the neighbouring States. The Corporation also produces levigated china clay which is used in the manufacture of insulators, sanitary-ware, crockery, etc. Besides, it produces a number of by-products.

INTEGRAL COACH FACTORY

Integral Coach Factory is one of the oldest public sector industries in Tamil Nadu employing nearly 11,000 workers. The factory was set up in 1955 in Perambur, Madras at a total cost of Rs. 7.35 crores under the First Five Year Plan as a production unit of the Railways to produce shells. Later, in 1962 the factory was expanded at a cost of Rs. 3.69 crores so as to undertake furnishing activities. Now the factory can produce upto 750 fully furnished coaches a year. It turned out 10,202 shells and furnished 8,252 coaches of about 36 types till March 1974. It is one of the best production units not only in the country, but anywhere in the world. Its products have been exported to countries in Asia and Africa and have an immense export potential which is limited only by the large demand at home.

HINDUSTAN PHOTO FILMS MANUFACTURING CO LTD.

The factory was set up at Ootacamund in January 1967 at a cost of Rs. 11.67 crores to produce cine film positive, photographic bromade paper, medical X-ray films, roll films, 35 mm negative film and cine film sound. The total output of the products of the factory during 1973—74 was 3.535 million sq. metres which was 20 per cent higher than the production during 1972—73. The setting up of ancillaries to supply raw materials is another major achievement of this factory.

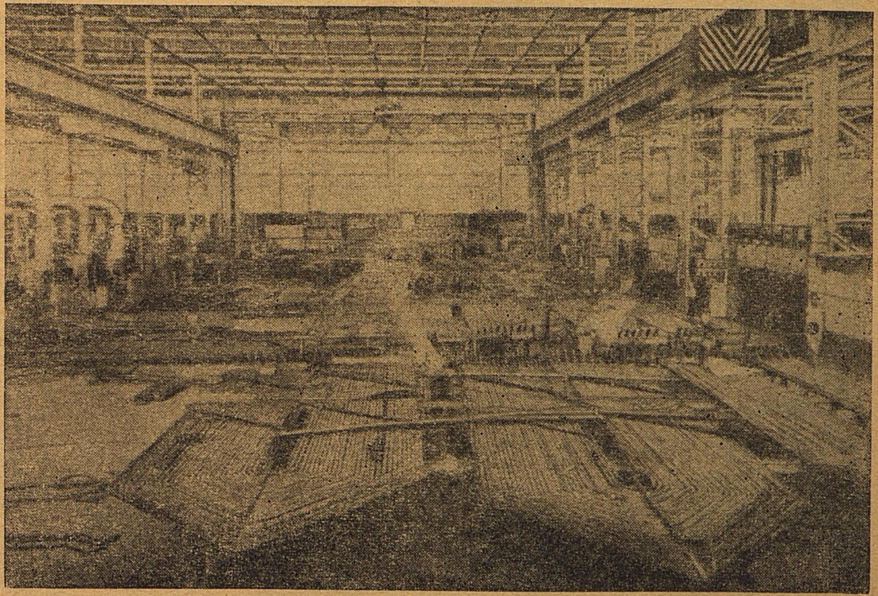
BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS LTD

The High Pressure Boiler Plant of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. is located at Tiruchirappalli. This plant is designed to manufacture high pressure boilers for thermal power station, package boilers for industrial use and high pressure valves. The capital investment of the project is Rs. 25.70 crores. It accounted for one fourth of the production of the Bharat Heavy Electricals during 1973—74. The value of output during the year was Rs. 67.6 crores which was 60 per cent higher than that of the preceding year. An expansion programme of the plant costing Rs. 12.12 crores has been approved. Sophisticated equipment from this factory has also been exported earning foreign exchange and bringing credit to Indian know-how.

MADRAS FERTILISERS LTD.

The fertiliser plant at Manali, Madras is one of the few largest fertiliser units in the country with an installed capacity of 2.47 lakh tonnes of ammonia, 2.92 lakh tonnes of urea and 3.63 lakh tonnes of NPK fertiliser. The factory started its commercial production in November 1971. During 1973—74, the unit produced 1.69 lakh tonnes of ammonia. 2.38 lakh tonnes of urea and 2.86 lakh tonnes of NPK fertiliser. Under a scheme of expansion, construction work on the third plant was started in May 1974. It would cost about Rs. 8.5 crores.

BHEL Boiler Plant, Tiruchi



The plant has one of the best soil testing laboratories in the country which can handle 200 coil samples a day. The company provides free services to farmers and based on the results of soil tests and water availability and the cropping plants, farmers are advised on the use of fertiliser for maximising production.

In addition, the undertaking initiated a programme of village adoption in 1974—75 for popularising the use of fertilisers in boosting agricultural production. The company has adopted 21 villages in Tamil Nadu. Besides providing individual plans for farmers in these villages and training them in advanced crop technology through field demonstrations, the programme includes supply of seeds, pesticides and credit facilities.

HINDUSTAN TELEPRINTERS LTD.

This public sector unit set up in 1960 has a capacity to produce 5,400 unit teleprinters on single shift basis and 8,500 unit teleprinters on double shift basis. So far, the Hindustan Teleprinters has supplied more than 50,000 unit teleprinters to various users in the country. The number of teleprinters planned for production during 1976—77 is 7,000 units as against about 6,000 expected during the current financial year.

The factory is also developing electronic teleprinter, tape teleprinter Hindi electric typewriter and bilingual teleprinter. It also proposes to make peripheral equipment for meeting the needs of computer development in the country.

MADRAS FERTILISERS LTD.

A refinery was set up at Madras at an estimated cost of about Rs. 43 crores to cope with the demand for petroleum products in the southern States. The refinery started commercial production in June 1969. It processed 2.8 million tonnes of crude during 1973—74 against the design capacity of 2.5 million tonnes. The refinery is to be expanded for raising the crude throughput capacity to 5.5 million tonnes a year as well as lube expansion and setting up of a wax plant at an estimated cost of Rs. 25 crores.

INDIAN DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS LTD

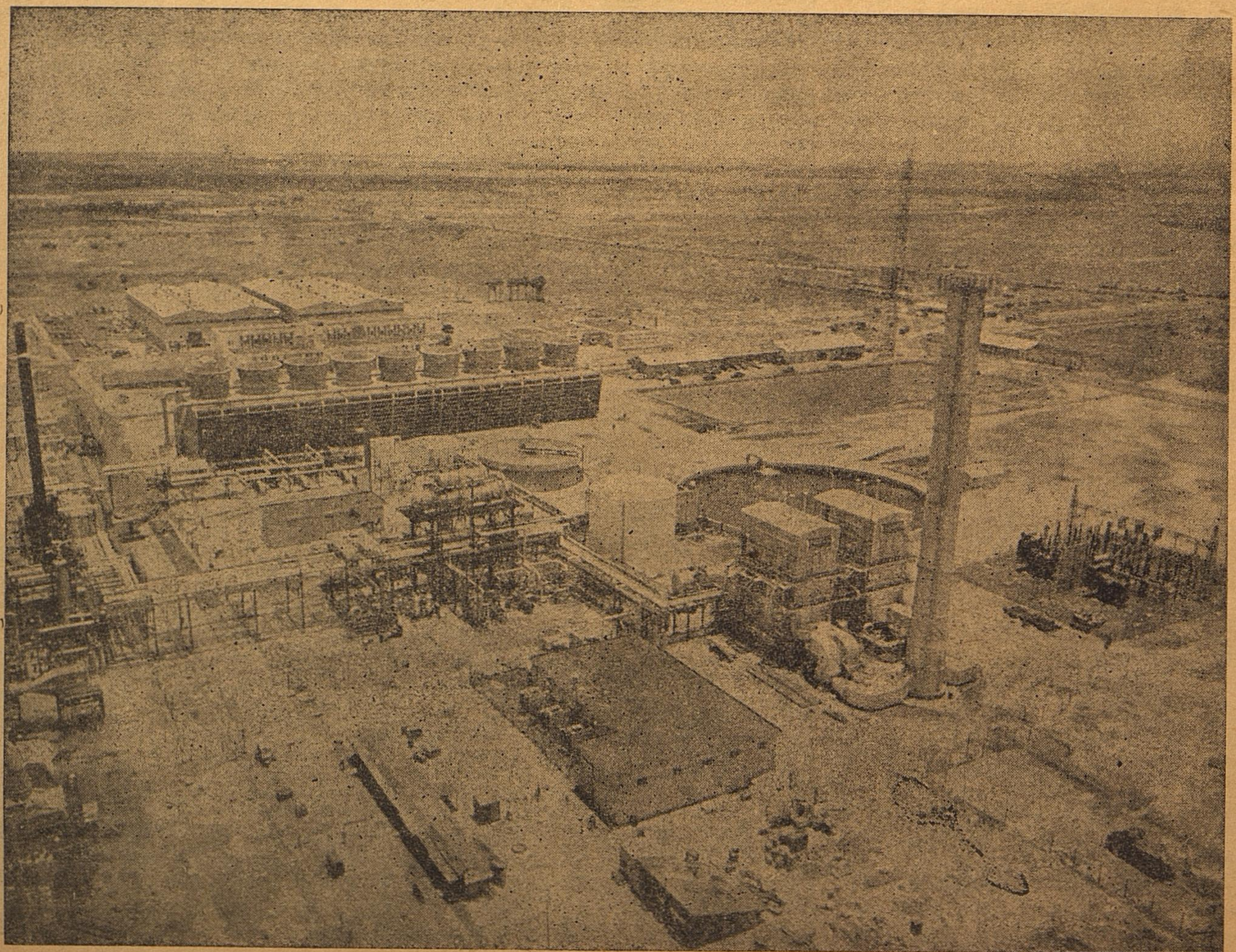
The Surgical Instruments Plant of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. was set up near Madras at a cost of Rs. 4.65 crores for the manufacture of different types of surgical instruments with a capacity of 2.5 million pieces. The unit started production in September 1965. During 1972—73, it produced 6.69 lakh instruments valued at Rs. 59.26 lakhs.

HEAVY VEHICLES FACTORY

The factory at Avadi under the Ministry of Defence is a modern integrated Unit producing under one roof all the major assemblies like engines, gear boxes and suspensions for the fighting vehicles. Besides producing the famous **Vijayanta** tanks, the factory also produces Armoured Recovery Vehicles.

The factory employs over 5,700 persons. It has provided extensive labour welafre measures which include provision of facilities like canteen and hospital. The existing medical facilities are being expanded.

A view of Madras Fertilisers, Manali



NOW THAT OUR FOOD Stock is Over-Flowing We look back with Pride on 10 years of struggle for self-reliance

The godowns of the Food Corporation of India (FCI in South Zone) are full to the brim and are overflowing at several centres with the steep increase in procurement of rice and paddy in recent weeks.

The pace of procurement also witnesses new strides following a good crop and the tightening up of measures to step up procurement, both by way of levy and price support.

In the South Zone of FCI, which comprised Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu and Pondicherry, FCI owned over eight lakh tonnes of storage capacity and the entire available storage space is filled with foodgrain stocks.

Besides, the Central Warehousing Corporation has made available to FCI storage space to the tune of over 3.5 lakh tonnes.

The State Warehousing Corporations have leased out to FCI about 1.25 lakh tonnes storage capacity in all the Southern states.

Over and above, FCI has acquired space from private parties and the State Governments to the tune of about two lakh tonnes.

All these sources together have yielded a storage capacity for about 1.5 million tonnes and the entire space has been made use of by FCI and search for new godowns is in full swing. For the country as a whole the buffer-stock is likely to reach the record level of 11 million tonnes. This constitutes the distinguishing feature of Food since 1968.

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned the State's Civil Supplies Corporation has procured 6 lakh tonnes rice and is ready to purchase all offerings from producers, without resorting to any levy.

The major components of food management policy till 1968 were public distribution, imports, procurement, trade regulations and price control. Since then, a new element has been incorporated into that policy—the building up and maintenance of buffer stock of foodgrains.

OUR FOOD POLICY HAS BRAVED ALL HAZARDS

First Phase

The first phase from 1947 to 1964 saw frequent shifts in emphasis on different elements of food management, influenced largely by the overall shortage and fluctuations in domestic production of foodgrains. The two most important instruments employed for food administration during the period were: public distribution and imports. The control on prices and trade was tightened or relaxed in line with the changes in procurement and distribution policies. The requirements of public distribution were met, by and large, through imports. Emphasis on domestic procurement of foodgrains varied considerably from year to year.

The food management policy followed during these years was effective indeed, but the major concern of the food administration was confined to protecting the interests of the consumers, particularly the vulnerable sections.

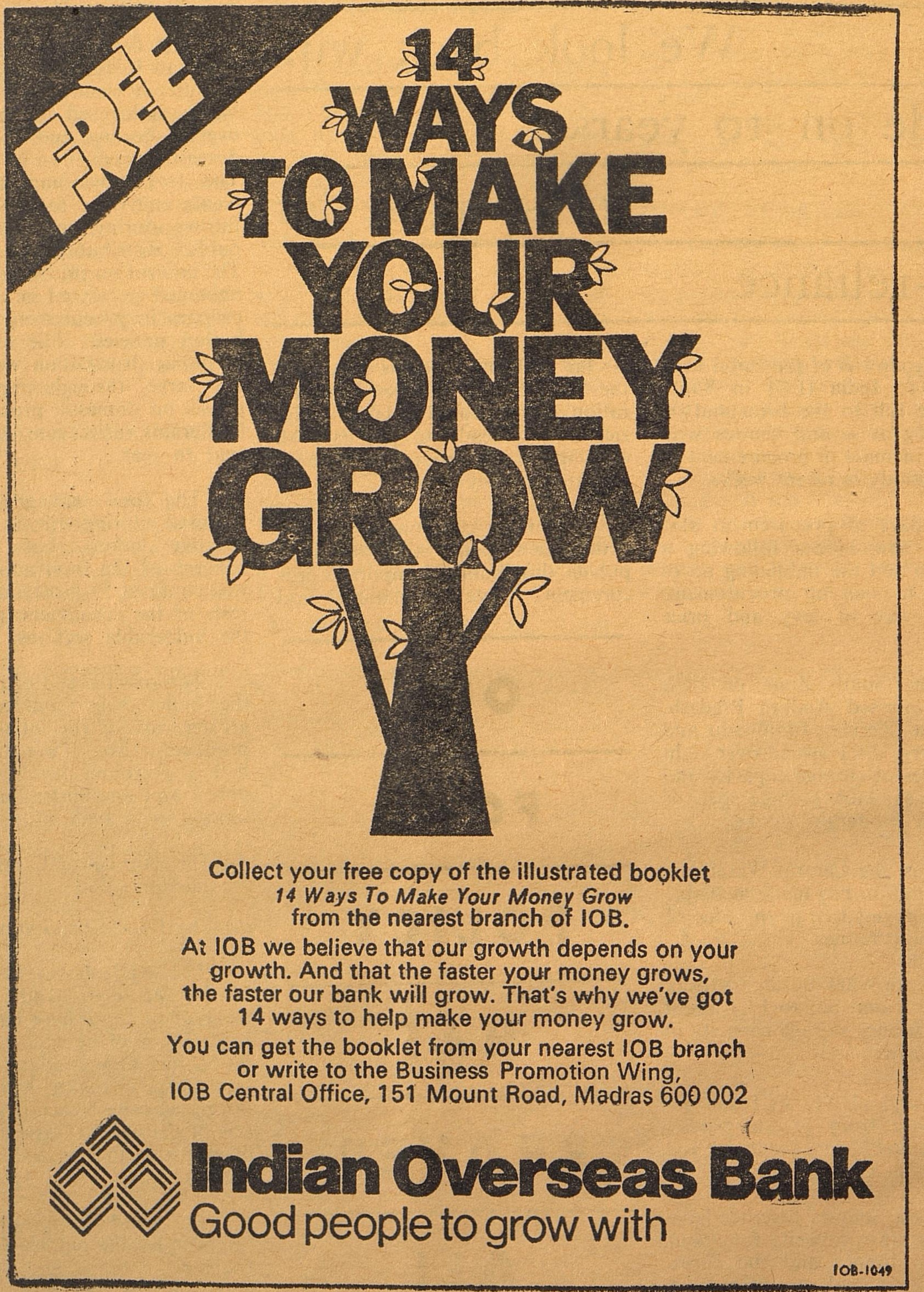
Towards the end of this period, the policy was modified to take greater care of the interests of the producers also. Two steps, which had a profound bearing on price policy and administration were the setting up in 1965 of :

(i) The Agricultural Prices Commission ; and

(ii) The Food Corporation of India

The Agricultural Prices Commission was set up to advise Government on a continuing basis on the price policy of agricultural commodities, including foodgrains, with a view to evolving a balanced and integrated price structure in the context of the need to raise agricultural production and provide relief to the consumer.

The Food Corporation was set up to undertake purchase, handling, transport, storage and distribution of foodgrains and other foodstuffs on behalf of the Government. The Corporation was to function as an autonomous organisation and was to secure for itself a commanding position in the foodgrains trade of the country.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PROCUREMENT EVEN IN LEAN YEARS PAVES WAY FOR SELF-RELIANCE

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENT DESPITE MASSIVE CROP FAILURE

Second Phase

The second phase begins when unprecedented droughts in large parts of the country led to heavy shortfall in production in two successive years of 1965-66 and 1966-67.

Acute scarcity conditions were felt in Bihar, U. P., M. P., Gujarat, Rajasthan and West Bengal, requiring relief operations on a gigantic scale. About 90 million people were hit by scarcity. Relief work was organised on a massive scale and the number of persons under the relief programmes reached a peak figure of 7.7 million in August, 1967. Gratuitous relief in the form of foodgrains and cash was provided to the old, infirm and those who could not work. Nearly 2.2 million persons benefited under this programme.

Procurement and Distribution

Further, the public distribution of foodgrains was significantly stepped up. Total offtake from the public distribution system was as much as nearly 27.3 million tonnes during the two years, 1966 & 67. Vigorous efforts were made to obtain as large a quantity of foodgrains from abroad as possible. Steps were also taken to maximise the domestic procurement of foodgrains. For the first time, procurement operations were intensified both in surplus and in deficit States. It was possible to procure a quantity of 4 million tonnes in 1966 and 4.5 million tonnes in 1967 despite the heavy shortfall in production. However, the main source of supply for the public distribution system continued to be imports which touched their peak level of 10.4 million tonnes in 1966 and were only marginally less at 8.7 million tonnes in 1967. Rigorous price controls and movement restrictions were enforced during these years with a view to keeping prices under check and maximising procurement.

The most noteworthy achievement of this period was that despite the massive failure of crops resulting from the worst drought of the century, no one was allowed to die due to non-availability of food.

The manner in which drought was fought had important repercussions on food management policies. It was realised that substantial quantities of foodgrains could be procured from the domestic market itself even in years of crop failure and that increasing emphasis would have to be placed in future on domestic procurement to meet the needs of the public distribution system.

Third Phase

The third phase includes four years of successive good harvests from 1968 to 1971, followed by three years of poor or not so good harvests. A new and integrated approach for dealing with the food problem of the country took shape during the early part of 1968 when for the first time the building of a buffer stock was included as an important element of food policy.

The breakthrough in production achieved as a result of large scale adoption of high-yielding varieties during these years provided the required opportunity for building up such a stock.

A distinguishing feature of the policy followed since 1968 has been the protection of the interests of the consumers, particularly the low-income groups, who account for the majority of our population. It called for the maintenance of a network of ration fair price shops for public distribution of foodgrains on a regular basis. Further, the farmers had to be assured reasonable prices even when surpluses merged which necessitated a regular apparatus for large scale procurement at remunerative and reasonable prices. Distribution and procurement were thus intimately interlinked ; they were also considered a natural concomitant of the policy of maintaining sizeable buffer stocks. Public distribution, procurement and maintenance and operation of buffer stocks represented among themselves an integrated system for management of the food economy of the country.

As a result of the intensification of domestic procurement, the country was able to build up a sizeable stock during 1968-71 as well as cut down imports during these years. Indeed, concessional imports of foodgrains were stopped from January 1972 in accordance with a decision taken earlier. As against the imports of over 10 million tonnes in 1966, the country imported only a meagre quantity of less than half a million tonnes in 1972.

Procurement and Public Distribution

The country, having built adequate stocks during 1972, was able to meet the requirements of the consumers from its own resources. The public distribution of foodgrains was increased by nearly 2.7 million tonnes in that year. In addition, 9 lakh tonnes were supplied to Bangala Desh. The widespread failure of crops in 1972-73 caused by drought, however, necessitated further expansion of the public distribution system. Though domestic procurement was maintained at a high level, imports became unavoidable. A quantity of 3.6 million tonnes was imported in 1973 to meet the current consumption requirements of the country. Continued stagnation in production obliged the Government to import even larger quantities in 1974 & 75. Notwithstanding the resort to imports, which were considered absolutely essential to meet the large gap between domestic availability and requirements, procurement of foodgrains has been kept at a high level all these years. Procurement out of 1974-75 crop upto the middle of September has already touched about 7.9 million tonnes.

Triumph of Self Reliance

The drought of 1972-73 was no less widespread and devastating in its impact on crops than the droughts of 1965-66 and 1966-67. Acute scarcity conditions developed over large parts of the country, especially in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan,

Procurement Public Distribution And Buffer Stock

Andhra Pradesh and North Karnataka. Altogether, 230 districts involving a population of about 200 million were hit by scarcity. The Central Government released nearly Rs. 4,000 million to the States for drought relief operations. Employment on various relief measures was provided to 9.5 million persons. The number of fair price shops was increased from about 1.25 lakhs in June 1972 to over 2 lakhs in 1973 to cater to the needs of the scarcity hit people.

The key-note of the food management policy, which also applies to relief operations, was self-reliance, and this paid its dividends. Self-reliance was not just a Government policy ; it was the peoples' determination.

The events of the period 1972-73 called for certain changes in the policy regarding restrictions on trade and movement. The widespread failure of crops in 1972-73 led to hoarding by anti-social elements among producers and traders, which resulted in a spurt in prices. Government took over the wholesale trade in wheat during the 1973-74 marketing season. The primary purpose of the take-over was to ensure adequate procurement of wheat for meeting the requirements of the public distribution system and to check an undue rise in prices. Far from following any rigid approach in this regard, however, Government has followed a flexible policy in dealing with the difficulties on the food front that have arisen from time to time.

Despite the increased distribution of foodgrains by Government and the other measures taken for holding the price line, there was a considerable rise in foodgrain prices during 1972-74 which was perhaps inevitable considering the fact that while production declined or stagnated, there was a continuous increased in demand on account of the growth in population and incomes. Apart of this rise in prices was contributed by the deliberate increase in procurement prices which was considered necessary to safeguard the interest of the producers

THE 3-CORNER STONES OF FOOD MANAGEMENT HAS BECOME A SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT

as also by the reduction in the rate of subsidy on wheat distributed by Government to keep deficit financing in check. Thus, in spite of substantial shortfalls in domestic supplies and the phenomonal rise in world prices, the skillful food management enabled the Government not only to ensure equitable distribution of available supplies but also to check an unduly large rise in domestic prices.

Now, the Fall in Prices

Since September 1974, there has been a fall in foodgrain prices. This was on account of the anti-inflationary, antihoarding and other measures taken by the Government for disciplining trade. The wholesale price index declined by about 7 per cent between October 1974 and June 1975. Such a fall in foodgrain prices has not been witnessed during this period in the recent past.

Since the declaration of emergency in June last, the fall in prices has been more marked. While the wholesale price index for cereals at the end of September 1974 was about 55 per cent higher than the index in the corresponding month a year earlier, the wholesale index at the end of September 1975 was nearly 15% lower than the index in the corresponding month of last year—a clear evidence that the inflationary trend in prices has been severely curtailed.

It is also necessary to take into account the issue prices at which foodgrain is supplied through the public distribution system, which is meant to protect the interests of the vulnerable sections of the society against undue rise in open market prices. Even when open market prices of foodgrains showed a substantial rise during 1972-74, the issue prices were kept at reasonable levels by an element of subsidy. Consequent on the sharp increase in the landed cost of imported wheat and a sizeable increase in the procurement prices of both rice and wheat, increase in the issue prices became unavoidable. The issue prices of coarse rice was increased to Rs 125 per quintal from, Ist November, 1973 while the issue price of wheat was increased to Rs. 125 per quintal from April 15, 1974. Even these enhanced prices included an element of subsidy. The issue price of rice had to be further raised to Rs. 135 per quintal from January, 1975 as a result of further increase in procurement price. Considering the level of prices in the open market, the prevailing issue prices must be considered reasonable.

The ultimate solution of the food problem of India lies in increased production. Government has, therefore, been equally concerned about the interests of the producers. Procurement prices of foodgrains, which are being virtually used as support prices from 1968, have been raised from time to time in the light of the changes in inputs costs and other factors.

The food management policy by the Government is aimed at achieving the maximum good of the maximum number.

The three cornerstones of the food management policy are (i) public distribution, (ii) procurement and (iii) buffer stock operations.

All of these are intimately interrelated and, taken together, have proved effective in dealing with the problems of food administration in our country.

HANDLOOM INDUSTRY OF TAMIL NADU

GETS MASSIVE ASSISTANCE AND ATTRACTIVE NEW SCHEMES FROM CENTRE

The Union Government had sanctioned Rs. 1.8 crores for clearing the accumulated stocks in the handloom sector. This was the highest amount sanctioned for any State for this purpose said, Shri A.C. George, Union Minister of State for Industry and Civil Supplies. Similarly, Karur will see the establishment of the first export oriented hand-loom complex, which has been cleared by the Central Government. " Our intention is to go in a massive way in the handloom sector in the State," said Shri George.

Handloom stocks of the value of Rs. 9.5 crores were cleared in the State as a result of the recent rebates of ten per cent by the State Government and another 10 per cent given by the Centre.

The Tamil Nadu Government had forwarded to the Centre proposals for setting up six export-oriented handloom complexes in the State with a loom capacity of 1,000 in each. There would be product diversification to include bed sheets, furnishing fabrics, tea towels, Madras handkerchiefs, Madras checks, turkey towels and lungis. The centres would come up at Karur (bed sheets, furnishing fabrics and tea towels) ; Madras (Madras handkerchiefs, lungis and Madras checks); Erode (towels and furnishing fabrics) Srivilliputtur, (new type of shirtings, in great demand in West Africa) ; Kurinjipadi (shirtings, traditional lungis which were catching up as fashion) ; and Kanyakumari (turkey towels and bed sheets). The centres at these places would be set up at a cost of Rs. 20 lakhs each and together were expected to produce nearly Rs. six crores worth of handloom goods in the first stage for export.

It was also proposed to set up mini service centres attached to each of the centres. The Union Government would clear the Karur Project immediately. Special consideration would be given to Tamil Nadu in the matter of sanctioning these projects in view of the State's great potentiality for handloom exports.

Co-operative Spinning Mills :

Shri George also assured financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 55 lakhs through the National Co-operative Development Corporation for expansion of spindlage of some of the co-operative spinning mills to 25,000 to make them viable units. These mills add at present a spindlage of 12,500 to 14,000.

Nine out of the twelve Co-operative Spinning Mills have undertaken expansion programme to increase the spindlage from 25,000 to 50,000 at a total cost of Rs. 1,171.00 lakhs.

The 12 Co-operative Spinning Mills set up in Tamil Nadu for production and supply of quality yarn to the weavers co-operative societies are producing about 1,500 bales of yarn per month. Government have provided share capital assistance to the extent of Rs. 279.21 lakhs and loans to the extent of Rs. 143.47 lakhs and guarantee to the extent of Rs. 1,370.47 lakhs to these spinning mills. The yarn produced by the spinning mills is distributed to the weavers co-operative societies through the yarn depots of the Co-optex.

CONTROLLED CLOTH FOR HANDLOOM SECTION

P.M.'S NEW PROPOSAL

As cloth is one of the basic requirements of the people, the Prime Minister has stressed the need for improvement in the scheme for the production and distribution of controlled cloth. Statutory control over the production of standard cloth like mill-made dhotis, sarees, long cloth and shirting had been in existence for some time. Last year, the obligation of the mills to produce controlled cloth was increased to 800 million sq. metres — 100 per cent increase. Mills were required to produce controlled cloth to the extent of 30 per cent of their total production. A penalty at the rate of Rs. 2.50 per sq. metre was imposed in case of shortfall in the production of controlled cloth. Government has also decided to add a few more varieties like poplin, shirting and coating to the range of cloth available at fixed prices. Because of the large demand for dhotis and sarees from weaker sections, the output of these items has been increased from 100 million sq. metres in 1974 to 160 million sq. metres.

As the mill sector cannot supply all the requirements of dhotis and sarees, it is proposed to entrust the production of controlled cloth to the handloom sector too. This sector will be ensured economic prices for that part of production which is meant for distribution under the controlled cloth scheme.

Production of standard cloth is only one aspect of the problem. The other aspect is the distribution of cloth to millions of people in villages. Ninety per cent of the production of controlled cloth is distributed through the co-operative sector by 28,000 retail outlets, 75 per cent of which are in rural areas. The quantity of controlled cloth distributed in rural areas is 2.93 lakh bales, accounting for 68 per cent of the total distribution. The value of cloth distributed in rural areas during 1974—75 was Rs. 62 crores. The distribution system is being further strengthened.

Tamil Nadu Rural Industries Thrive with Central Aid

The Government of India's Rural Industries Projects Programme has been under implementation in 111 districts in the country. The project areas are towns and villages having a population of less than 15,000. The State of Tamil Nadu has been allotted five such projects. Three of these were initiated in 1962—63 in the districts of Tirunelveli, Salem and Chinglepet. The other two, namely, Ramanathapuram and Dharmapuri have been sanctioned for implementation in the Fifth Five Year Plan period.

The Central Government has been giving substantial financial assistance to the Tamil Nadu Government for the implementation of the Rural Industries Projects Programme in that State. During the period 1962 to 1974, the assistance given in the form of grants was about Rs. 6.9 million and loans Rs. 8.5 million. During 1974—75, a sum of Rs. 2.25 million was given as assistance to the State Government. During the current financial year (1975—76), the allocation was Rs. 1.9 million. The State Bank of India also provided credit facilities to 427 units in the Rural Industries Projects in Tirunelveli, Salem and Chinglepet upto March 1975. This was done under a specially liberalised scheme and the total credit given was about Rs. 1.5 million. Another 115 units in these districts were given credit amounting to Rs. 3·5 lakhs under the normal credit rules.

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61 months	168.00	420.00	840.00	1680.00
72 months	184.50	461.25	922.50	1845.00
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36 months	18.97	37.94	75.88	379.40	758.80
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TNSC-124/75

DOWRY PROHIBITION GETS INTO CONDUCT RULES OF CENTRAL GOVT. SERVANTS

A SLUR ON OUR SOCIAL SYSTEMS NOW BECOMES AN OFFENCE IN MANY STATES

The Committee on the status of women in India had recommended that Government should declare taking or giving of dowry to be against the Government Servants' Conduct Rules. The Government of India considered this recommendation carefully and a new rule prohibiting the taking or giving of dowry has been made in the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

The new rule says : "No Government Servant shall give or take or abet the giving or taking of dowry or demand directly or indirectly from the parents or guardian of a bride or bridegroom, as the case may be, any dowry."

Any violation of the provisions of the new rules will be a good and sufficient cause for taking disciplinary action against Government servants.

"Any young man who makes dowry a condition of marriage discredits his education and his country and dishonours womanhood," said Gandhiji.

The pernicious practice of dowry as an appendage to marriage, in which payment in cash or kind is made by the girl's parents, is widely prevalent in our country. Dowry is given in many forms — cash, jewellery, houses, land, utensils, clothes, refrigerators, car, radio and TV set etc. There are many scales of dowry for men in different professions — the highest is fixed for men in administrative services, business executives and among doctors and engineers. Dowry thus creates a caste hierarchy of its own.

There can be no place for dowry in an egalitarian socialistic society we are trying to build today. The hard and glaring implications of dowry system on an individual family are too obvious to everyone but its adverse impact on social and economic development is not known to many. The improper utilisation of savings in customs like dowry deprives the nation of its savings for promoting agriculture or industry and thereby raising the living standard of the people.

The dowry system is anti-socialistic for it perpetuates class differences between the rich and the poor. It tends to support the myth that women are inferior to men, which goes against the spirit of equality of sexes. At a time when national resources are scarce, extravagance in marriage is a national waste. The enormous financial burden on parents, who have often to borrow money at high rate of interest to meet marriage expenses, forces many parents to indulge in corrupt practices for acquiring wealth. It creates mental tensions and frustrations and mental tensions among many young girls and at times leads to suicide. Several girls have been forced to remain unmarried because of dowry. Those who get married have often to suffer silently inhuman treatment meted out to them by their inlaws for having brought 'insufficient' dowry Dowry is, therefore, a great slur on our social system.

A number of steps have been taken in recent years to do away with the dowry. The Hindu Succession Act of 1955 conferred rights on daughters to a share in parental property. The Government by the Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961 has made giving or taking of dowry illegal. Abetment to dowry, according to it, is also illegal. The Act stipulates punishment for the violation of its provisions which may be either imprisonment extending to six months or fine up to Rs. 5,000 or both.

The anti-dowry drive has gathered a new momentum since the emergency. Several State Governments have enacted legislation and taken other measures to eradicate the evil of dowry. In West Bengal, the Dowry Prohibition (West Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1975, makes dowry a cognizable and non-bailable. Similar steps have been taken by the Governments of Orissa, Punjab and Haryana. To encourage inter-caste marriages, cash incentives are being given in several States like Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat. etc. There is now a new awareness among the masses and several social organisations are working for the eradication of this evil. Yet a lot more remains to be done. The following recommendations of the Committee on the Status of Women, if implemented, would go a long way in doing away with the practice of dowry.

(*a*) Government Servants' Conduct Rules should prohibit taking and giving of dowry.

(*b*) Gifts to the bridegroom in excess of Rs. 500 be made punishable.

(*c*) Dowry be made a cognizable offence.

(*d*) Ceiling be imposed on gifts given to bride.

(*e*) Legislation to penalise display of gifts at the time of, or before and after the marriage, and

(*f*) Evaluation of impact of Dowry prohibition Act after every five years.

The success of various Governmental measures depends to a large extent on the building up of a strong public opinion against the dowry system. Mere legislation cannot bring about a social change of such momentous dimension. As our Prime Minister has observed, "Unless young people are prepared to make sacrifices and face terrific hardships, the change cannot come."

offence : The Bihar Government has decided to amend the anti-Dowry Act to make the offence cognizable.

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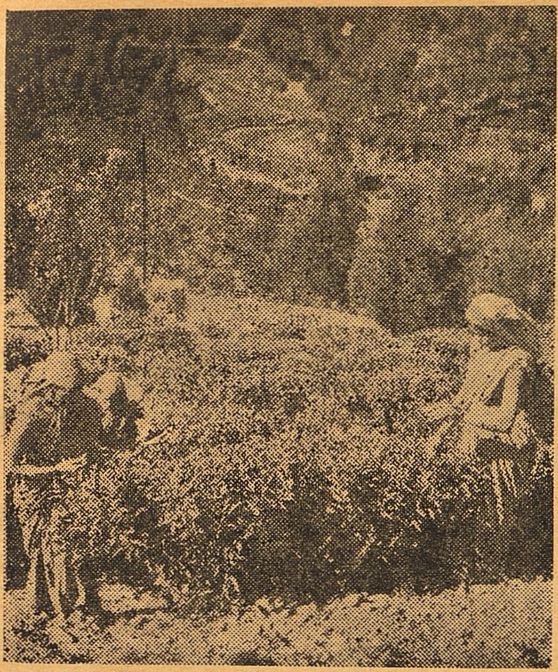


The Union Government Hill Area Development Scheme

HELPS US TAKE CARE OF THE SMALL TEA PLANTERS OF NILGIRIS DISTRICT

Under the Hill Area Development Programme for the Nilgiris District, the following two schemes together costing Rs. 31.40 lakhs for assisting the Small Farmers of Tea in the Nilgiris to improve the per acre yield in their holdings on par with the yield obtained by the farmers of bigger plantations, for implementation during the Fifth Five Year Plan have been approved.

	Rs. (lakhs)
(1) Scheme for providing Tehnical Guidance for Small Farmers of Tea	13.40
(2) Scheme for Improvement of Small Tea plan tations	18.00
Total	31.40

Of the above two schemes, the scheme for Providing Technical Guidance to small farmers of tea has the objective of providing technical guidance to the small farmers of tea, who are members of the ten Industrial Co-operative Tea Factories functioning in the Nilgiris, in their day-to-day operations, such as planting, spacing, pruning, manuring, plant protection, etc., by the employment of Deputy Agricultural Officers at the rate of four for each of the ten Industrial Co-operative Tea Factories. The second scheme has the objective to carry out plant protection measures in the lands of small farmers of tea to control Blister Blight infection, insect pests and zinc deficiency disease in small tea plantations, besides carrying out a survey of lands possessed by these small farmers, who are members of the ten Industrial Co-operative Tea Factories, in order to enable them to register their names with the Tea Board (1) for availing subsidy under the Replanting Subsidy Scheme of the Tea Board (2) for availing plantations Finance Loan of the Tea Board, etc. This scheme which was drawn up by the Director of Industries and Commerce was estimated to cost Rs. 36 lakhs and it was anticipated that the Tea Board will bear 50% of the cost of the scheme and hence a provision of Rs. 18 lakhs was included under the Hill Area Development Programme.

Appropriate Plant Protection Measures

Government have examined the question of implementing the schemes during 1975-76. It has been considered that as both the schemes have the common objective of carrying out plant protection measures in the lands of small farmers of tea of the Nilgiris, among others, and as the area of operation of both the schemes is also confined to the ten Industrial Co-operative Tea Factories in the Nilgiri, the scheme could easily be combined into one and an integrated scheme is implemented by a single agency which will not only be more economical from the point of view of employment of staff, etc., but also administratively more feasible. It is also considered that as the implementation of the various schemes under the Hill Area Development Programme for the Nilgiris in the Agricultural Sector has been entrusted to the Project Officer, Indo German Nilgiris Development Project, it would be helpful if provision is included in the integrated scheme for the appointment of one Deputy Officer in the cadre of a Deputy Director of Agriculture instead of a Horticulturist so that this officer will function under the Project Officer, Indo German Nilgiris Development Project, Ootacamund and be responsible to him in the successful implementation of all the schemes included under the Hill Area Development Programme, for the Nilgiris in the Agricultural Sector.

Accordingly, the Director of Agriculture has been requested to draw and send up an integrated scheme limiting the outlay to Rs. 31.40 lakhs for the Fifth Plan and to Rs. seven lakhs for the Annual Plan 1975-76.

10,000 Acres to Benefit

The Director of Agriculture has since submitted the Integrated Scheme at a total cost of Rs. 47.19 lakhs with provision for recovery of the costs of spraying charges under Plant Protection from the Industrial Co-operative Tea Factories at 65% of cost in the first year 75% in the second year and 85% in the 3rd year. thus limiting the net cost of the scheme to the outlay of Rs. 31.40 lakhs approved by the Planning Commission. This integrated Scheme is generally based in the revised scheme drawn up by the Director of Industries and Commerce but does not include the programme of survey of lands of small farmers of tea which was included in the original scheme forwarded to the Central Planning Commission and accepted by it. The Director of Agriculture has also proposed that the Integrated Scheme may be implemented during the remaining period of the year 1975-76 for covering an area of 5,000 acres only limiting however, the employment of the field staff to fifty percent of the requirement.

10,000 acres to benefit

This scheme is contemplated to operate for three years in the Vth Year Plan since the small tea grower have been very badly affected financially by drought, slump in the world tea market, frequent power cut and bank indebtedness resulting in low prices for tea. The above scheme is proposed for three years by the end of which period the general level of maintenance of the small tea garden is expected to improve.

It is proposed to cover 10,000 acres under this scheme. There are eight tea factories already functioning. Two more factories at Pandalur and Melur are coming up. Each factory has a membership of 300 to 400 small farmers of tea with a total area of about 1,000 acres registered under each factory. It is proposed to implement the scheme in about 10,000 acres registered with the following ten factories.

1. Kil-kotagiri.
2. Kotagiri
3. Karumbalam
4. Melur (proposed new factory)
5. Manjur
6. Eadakkadu
7. Ithalar
8. Mahalinga
9. Merounad
10. Pandalur (proposed new factory)

Blister blight spraying :

In the first four centres with an extent 4,000 acres, Blister blight is usually not noticed in any alarming degree. During the North East Monsoon period i.e. October, to November and sometimes until January, this leaf disease is noticed to a moderate extent in these centres. The fields recovering from pruning are affected badly. The big plantations usually spray 3 to 4 times annually. In some yearly, the number of rounds may be as low as two while the maximum may be around eight. For purpose of this scheme, cost of four rounds of spray is taken into account.

Insecticidal spraying :—

The major problems are mites and thrips, which usually multiply very fast during dry weather. By the end of January or early February one prophylastic spray against mites may restrict the multiplication of these pests. By March-April two more rounds are usually necessary. On an average a minimum of four rounds per annum against pest will be required. If dry weather continues over a long period an additional 1 to 2 rounds may be required. But, for estimating the costs four rounds are taken into account.

Weather conditions in these centres would be congenial for Blister blight infection from the onset of South West monsoon i.e., starting from June-July and the infection extends upto November-December with a usual break during August-September. Ten rounds of spraying against blister blight are contemplated.

Pests :

Regarding pest control, it is enough if three rounds on an average are taken into account. Special mention has to be made here that the number of rounds for Blister blight control in Pandalur area can go up to 20 rounds.

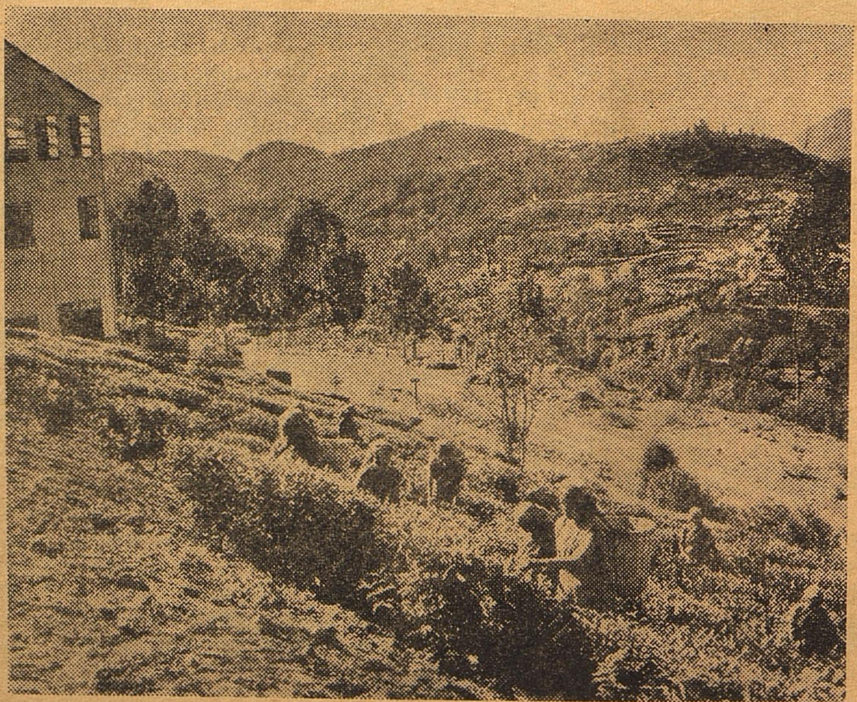
Insectdical spray

Three rounds of Ethion and one round of Malathion are contemplated for estimating the total cost involved. Volume of spray fluid to be used should be 20 gallons acre in the case of fields upto three years after pruning and 30 gallons for other fields. The suggested concentration of the spray fluid for both chemicals is 1 in 750 i. e. 4.75 Oz in 20 gallons per acre in the case of fields upto three years after pruning and 30 30 gallons for other fields.

Zinc sulphate spray :

The bushes in all these centres exhibit symptoms of moderate to servere zinc deficiency. This could be corrected by folier application of zinc sulphate at 10 lbs per acre in alternate years. Five thousand acres (50% of total area) alone are proposed for spraying with zinc sulphate against zinc deficiency disease. The correction of zinc deficiency results increased yields up to 14%

Hill Area Development Scheme has furnished road access to many small tea-estates



These are the Hill Areas of Tamil Nadu

There are in all nine distinct hill areas in Tamil Nadu. The statement below gives in one view, the names of these areas together with the details of areas, total population, tribal population, etc.

	Hill areas	*Area in sq. miles*	*Number of villages*	*Total population*	*Tribal population.*
1.	Javadhu hills of North Arcot	144	48	36,169	33,491
2.	Talavady Block of Coimbatore	78	22	28,953	10,000
3.	A. Ootacamund Block of Nilgiris	361	16	1,16,033	1,432
4.	B. Coonoor Block of Nilgiris	95	10	73,884	997
5.	C. Gudalur Block of Nilgiris	305	8	69,522	6,775
6.	D. Kotagiri Block of Nilgiris	98	12	53,846	3,587
7.	Kolli hills Block of Salem District	82	14	21,055	21,055
8.	Yercaud Block of Salem District	148	67	23,720	13,420
9.	Peddanaickenpalayam Block of Salem District	216	52	72,462	15,000
10.	Pachalamalai hills of Tiruchi	51	35	5,570	5,570
11.	Kodaikanal of Madurai district	360	35	50,710	20,000

Of these hills areas, only Nilgiris and Kodaikanal have so far achieved some measure of economic development; thanks largely to their being centres of tourist attraction. Even in these two areas, the impact of economic development has been very little in the remote villages. The remaining hill areas have not witnessed any tangible economic growth during the last few decades. Till about the beginning of the third plan period, no special programmes were drawn up for the development of these hill areas apart from the extension, to a limited extent, of the normal plan activities like starting of Community development blocks, implementation of schemes relating to sectors like welfare of backward classes, education etc. The difficult nature of the terrain has however acted as a very severe constraint with the result that very little progress has been achieved even in the implementation of these normal development programmes. It was in the third plan that the problem was recognised and an attempt made at pushing through the economic activities at an accelerated pace in the hill areas. Master plans were prepared for Yercaud and Kolli hills for an integrated development of the infrastructure and provision and credit centres, water-supply, schools, Primary health centres, etc. Under these master plans expenditure of the order of Rs. 60 lakhs was implemented till the end of the IVth plan.

The men and women are grading the qualities of tea leaves.

Other Schemes for Development of Nilgiris

Thanks to the Indo-German programme during the fourth plan period, a sum of Rs. 350 lakhs was set apart for the various agricultural schemes. These schemes contemplate works in connection with soil conservation, provision of drainage and irrigation wells, establishment of State farms, research farms and mechanisation and setting up of workshops, evolving potato seeds resistant to late blight, production of quality potato seeds, introduction of plant protection measures, introduction of wheat in rotation with potato and growing of vegetables and fruits in larger measure. Apart from these, the scope of this project is to be extended to cover schemes of animal husbandry, forests and fisheries.

Apart from the Indo-German project, a number of other schemes relating to forests and roads have also been formulated for implementation in this area. A programme with a total outlay of Rs. 284 lakhs jased over three five-year plan periods has been drawn up for the development of roads in Nilgiris district.

CENTRE'S SUBSIDY SCHEME FOR SOUTHERN TEA ESTATES

A new subvention scheme has been recently framed by the Government of India by which eligible tea estates can benefit by a subsidy amounting to Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000 per hectare depending upon the work, the subsidy is meant for. The scheme is principally intended to improve tea production from the existing old and uneconomic tea areas within the shortest possible time by arresting deterioration of the existing tea bushes and by increasing bush population using better planting materials.

Any tea estate located in the hill area and registered with the Tea Board is eligible for the grant of subsidy. All tea estates in South India fall within the category of 'hill areas' as defined by Central Board of direct taxes in notification No. S. O. 1526 dated 18th May, 1966. The existing bushes in the area should be potentially healthy and be capable of being rejuvenated. The section should not normally have a vacancy of more than 25% except in certain cases where up to 40% will be allowed by the Chairman, of the Tea Board, if he is satisfied from TRA/UPASI's report that the area is fit for rejuvenation. At the same time, the section should not be due for uprooting and replanting within the next 10 years. Rejuvenation and consolidation of 'abandoned tea areas' will not be eligible for subsidy. The minimum area for which the subsidy will be granted is 0.1 hectare for estates below 8 hectares, 0.5 hectare for estates between 8 and 50 hectares and 1 hectare for estates over 50 hectares of area.

The estates should submit their applications Chairman, Tea Board, in the prescribed form prior to 31st March of the preceding financial year. The application should be accompanied by a map of the area duly drawn after actual survey of the area by some Government approved surveyor. The application must also be accompanied by a certificate from T. R. A./UPASI to the effect that the concerned area is fit for undertaking the programme. The subsidy will be payable for rejuvenation and infilling of vacancies at the rate of Rs. 3,000!- per hectare and for cases covering rejuvenation, infilling and interplanting, it will be Rs. 4,000/- per hectare.

Certain norms have been laid down which include the use of only such planting materials which are approved by the Tea Board as currently in force. Infilling of vacancies and interplanting should ensure a minimum bush population of 10,000 per hectare. Adequate steps to drain out surplus water and to conserve the soil must be initiated. In sanctioning applications, some specific conditions may be set forth with regard to inputs and maintenance which, if done, should be adhered to. The applicant tea estates must maintain proper records regarding commencement upkeep and completion of various operations. The Chairman of Tea Board is the sanctioning authority for the grant of subsidy.

Disbursement of the subsidy will be effected in not more than three instalments according to the completion of each stage of work. For rejuvenation and infilling only, the first two instalments will carry an amount of Rs. 1,200!- each and the final instalment Rs. 600!- For rejuvenation and infilling with interplanting, the rate of first two instalments will be Rs. 1,600!- each and that of the final instalment will be Rs. 800!-

Only on receipt of written intimation from the Tea Board, the applicant tea estate should commence field operations. The estate will be required to complete rejuvenation pruning of existing tea not exceeding 8" from ground level by March 31, of the respective year. This done, the first instalment becomes payable. The second instalment will be payable after 12 months, but before 24 months from the date of commencement of rejuvenation pruning operation, following the issue of certificate for that cause by the concerned inspector. The final instalment will be payable after 12 months from the date of completion of infilling and or interplanting as the case may be, following the issue of certificate as above.

WORKING OF PLANTATION ACT IN TAMIL NADU

The Plantations Labour Act, 1951 applies to all Coffee, Tea, Rubber, Cinchona and Cardamom Plantations, admeasuring 10.117 hectares or more in area and in which 30 or more persons are employed on any one day of the preceding 12 months. During the year under report there were 340 plantations within the scope of the Act. The provisions of the Act are enforced by the Commissioner of Labour who is assisted by the Chief Inspector of Plantations. The Inspectors appointed under the Act inspected 271 plantations in their jurisdiction. In addition to these inspections, the Inspectors made 5 Sunday visits 26 surprise visits and 12 special visits during the year.

Provision of health and medical facilities :

The Plantations are classified into 3 categories, for provision of medical facilities and the planters have to provide medical facilities to their workers according to Rule 21 of the Tamil Nadu Plantations Labour Rules, 1955. The Plantation managements have provided drinking water facilities and latrine accommodation under Rules 11 and 12 of the Tamil Nadu Plantations Labour Rules.

Housing Accommodation :

The Planters provided 34,169 houses conforming to the prescribed standards during the period under report. Plans for construction of houses received from Managements were approved by the Chief Inspector of Plantations, Madras.

Leave with wages :

During the period under report, leave with wages was granted to 20,842 men, 14,880 women, 795 adolescents and 132 children. Of these, 1373 men, 862 women and 15 adolescents were granted leave upto 30 days.

The workers are eligible for 14 days' sickness allowance in a year for certified absence of sickness and leave can be accumulated upto 30 days. During the year under report, 25,251 workers were paid sickness allowance amounting to Rs. 3,65,003-3,65,003.17. A sum of Rs. Rs. 11,99,839.28 was paid as maternity benefit to 5,404 women during the year. As many as 81% of the Planters had submitted their annual returns during the year 1973.

YOUTH AGAINST DIRT AND DISEASE

The Standard Fire Works Rajaratnam College for Women, Sivakasi chose Anuppankulam village as the venue of its NSS activity from 20—12—1975 to 29—12—1975.

The activities of an ideal camp suggested by the Director of Youth Welfare, Madurai University during the Orientation Course found place in the programme. The programme was planned with a view to capture the interest of the villagers in various activities of life cultural, health and hygiene, religious, intellectual and sports. But importance was given to enlighten the minds of the people on health and hygiene — prevention of epidemic diseases, environments, cleanliness, food nutrition etc.

Method of functioning :

The students were divided into six groups each group having a student leader. The six groups were responsible for the main activities, Environmental cleanliness, Health and hygiene, intellectual, religious, cultural and sports respectively.

To know the places and people of the village, the students went in groups inside and around the village. They pasted the posters on ' Environmental Cleanliness ' everywhere in the village requesting the villagers to preserve them. In the evening the inaugural meeting was held. Tmty. Gnanagiri, Selvi D. Rathinamala, M.A. welcomed the gathering. Selvi Velammal, M.A. from the village gave a speech. Selvi S. Rita Grace, III B.A. proposed vote of thanks.

On the second day the students undertook cleaning campaign. They removed the shrubs, thorns, dirt and dust and cleaned the drainages. In the evening the village children were taught rhymes, drawing, songs, throwball and the tennikoit. The adults were taught to play Chess and Chinese Checkers. In the night through entertainments, the students instructed the villagers about the evils of smoking and drinking. By a regular campaign, as it were, examining of children was undertaken, although the children were examined only for polio-vaccine cases.

On the fourth day the students took Socio-economic survey in Anuppankulam. Then they prepared the villagers for the Medical Check Up in the evening. Dr. Thangavelu and Dr. C. N. Vimala, Primary Health Centre, Pudupatti attended on the patients. Medical check up was done for 138 patients and polio drops were given to 45 children.

For Women

In the evenings the women of the village were taught to make wire bags. The students arranged for a cooking demonstration with the help of Mathar Sangam. The students demonstrated the preparation of Wheat Halva, Tomato jam, diamond cakes and chips. Nearly 45 ladies from the village had come for the cooking demonstration class.

The S. F. W. College Women Students give cooking demonstration.

The ninth day was the Sports day for the villagers. Apart from the outdoor games, competitions were conducted in cooking, kolams, drawing, Chess, Chinese Checkers, short story writing, poem-writing etc. Baby show* was also conducted. In the night documentary films were screened.

Conclusion :

The N. S. S. Campers left the camp with a failing of despair that though they have succeeded in all their camp activities they could not succeed in persuading the villagers to have latrines in individual's houses in order to preserve environmental cleanliness.

SARAH

TUCKER COLLEGE

From 11th to 20th December 1975 the Sarah Tucker College, Tirunelveli helped in the Youth against dirt and disease campaign in Reddiarpatti and four adjoining villages via., Anaiyarkulam, Muthur, Tuckeramnalpuram and Oachangulam. The students concentrated on providing drainages in all the villages and created health awareness through display of posters. Illnesses were treated with the help of four doctors. The other aspects tackled by the N. S. S. volunteers were :

Vaccination has been done for nearly all in the villages, and

Small pox is eradicated.

Polio cases are found to have taken place some years ago.

Most of the villagers are farmers and they go to the fields and so they are not able to keep their houses and surroundings clean.

Old people are willing to attend adult literacy classes.

When the people are jobless many want to send their children to school but when they are employed (as daily wage earners in the fields) they are unwilling to send them. **In addition, the installation of Gobar gas plant was advocated through house to house campaign.**

SRI S. RAMASAMY NAIDU MEMORIAL COLLEGE, SATTUR

Under the auspices of the N.S.S. unit of Sri S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur, a Y.A.D.D. camp was conducted from 23rd December '75 to 1st January '76 at Nenmeni, a village in Sattur Panchayat Union. Fifty N.S.S. volunteers of the college and Three teachers participated. Seven villages were selected for work. They are 1. Nenmeni 2. N. Mettupatti 3. Mayurnathapuram 4. Irukkankkudi 5. M. Nagalapuram 6. Nathathupatti and 7. Kalingal Mettupatti.

The following were the activites of the campers in the above villages durin the camp period.

1. Propaganda against dirt and disease.
2. Sanitation.
3. Free medical check-up.
4. One day model library.
5. Propagation of the Gobar Gas plant.
6. Propagation of soak-pit and latrine.
7. Statistical work.
8. Educating through cultural programmes.
9. Film shows.
10. Afforestation.

The camp was inaugurated by Thiru C. R. Rajendran, I. A. S., Asst. Collector, Sivakasi at 4 p.m. on the 23rd Dec. '75. The function was presided over by Thiru V. Ramasamy, M.A., Principal, Sri S. Ramasamy Naidu Memorial College, Sattur.

On the same day the campers laid a road connecting the main road and S. R. N. Govt. High School. The campus and its surroundings were cleaned.

Statistical data :

Statistical data regarding the number of disease affected persons was collected. The particulars regarding the number of persons interested in installing the Gobar Gas plant were gathered.

Afforestation :

200 Eucalyptus seedlings donated by the Forest Ranger, Srivilliputtur were planted by the campers at the camping spot, N. Mettupatti, Mayurnathapuram, Nenmeni, Natha thupatti and also in our college campus. The campers also contacted the youths of the villages and exchanged ideas with them. They also engaged themselves in games such as Kabbadi, Volley Ball, Tennikoit, Foot ball, and Chess.

PACHAIYAPPA'S

A special youth camp against dirt and disease was organised by Pachaiyappa's College students at Kollumedu near Avadi for 12 days.

Sixty volunteers of the NSC, who participated in it, constructed two RCAP latrines, the first in the village. They also participated in cleaning the streets, conducting health survey and adult education classes. They formed a kitchen garden for the elementary school and laid a road for Harijan colonies in the village.

NSS CAMP OF VIVEKANANDA

A week-long " youth against dirt and diseases " camp, organised by volunteers of the National Service Scheme of the Vivekananda College, in Kattankulathur Panchayat Union concluded at Ninnaikarai village on January 11. About 50 volunteers participated.

Addressing the valedictory function, Swami Amritananda, Rector of the College, pointed out that programmes like these developed in the youth a spirit of service. Dr. N. Venkatasubramaniam, Principal, presided.

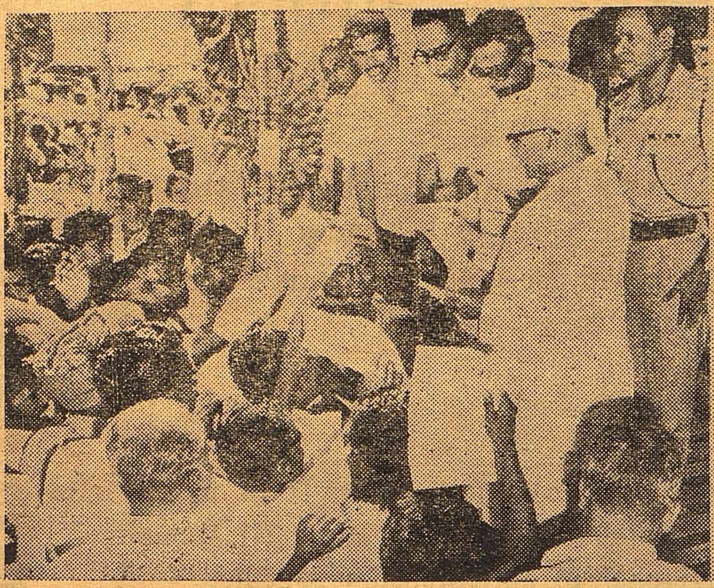
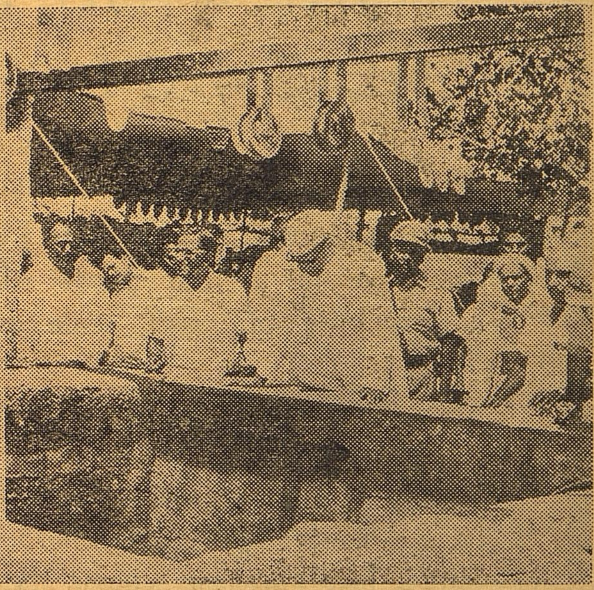
STELLA MARIS COLLEGE GIRLS DONATE BLOOD

About 100 students of Stella Maris College donated blood in a voluntary blood donation campaign launched in the City on Monday, 2—2—1976.

Dr. Al. Annamalai, Superintendent, G.H. who inaugurated the campaign stressed the need for more Rh negative blood donors, (Six Stella girls who donated blood were in this group). Dr. Annamalai answered the doubts raised by students.

Mrs. Akkamma Krishnamurthi, honorary joint secretary, Red Cross, gave an audio-visual talk on blood groups and the need for voluntary donations.

Governor Hears Woes Of People In Drought Affected Areas of Coimbatore

Tamil Nadu Governor Thiru K. K. Shah Toured the drought affected areas of Coimbatore District on 24th and 25th Feb. 1976. While affording relief to grievances, the Governor promised action against officials who by their delay caused hardship to people.

MADRAS I.I.T. STUDENTS ADOPT VILLAGE FOR TECHNOLOGICAL APPLICATION

The Indian Institute of Technology N.S.S. has adopted a village close to its campus, Narayanavaram for applying what it terms as " application of total science and technology" to rural life. The primary object of course is to see that all who are willing to work can find some gainful employment.

As a preparation for concentrated development activity, the NSS unit held on 11-day camp at Narayanavaram in December under the charge of Mr. S. P. Subramaniam, Programme Officer. The students took up such activities as coaching the pupils in the village's single teacher primary school, colour washing of the building and construction of temporary latrines in the school. They rebuilt the mud walls of two disapidated huts and carried out improvements in the children's park in the village. Besides, they assisted in providing medical care and drainage facilities.

The co-operation from the villagers was " satisfactory " at the start. As the work progressed, they became more enthusiastic and there was excellent response, according to Mr. Robert Nathan Student Secretary, NSS.

N. C. C. CONTINGENT RETURNS FROM DELHI

The NCC contingent from Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry that participated in the rally and inter-directorate competition in Delhi, arrived in the City on 2nd February '76.

The contingent secured third position against stiff competition from 16 directorates. It won two first prizes—in aero-modelling and kit lay-out and three second prizes in ship-modelling, signals and the senior division best girl cadet's award.

MORE CANDIDATES FOR S. S. L. C. THIS YEAR

The number of pupils appearing for S. S. L. C. examination in the past three years is progressively increasing.

It was 1,93,686 in 1973 2,21,402 in 1974 and about 2,30,000 in 1975. This year, nearly 2.50 lakhs pupils are expected to appear for the S. S. L. C. examination beginning March 22 from about 2,800 high schools in the State.

The central valuation will be continued this year also in about nine centres.

NEW CURRICULUM FOR MATRIC SCHOOLS IN STATE

New curriculum will be introduced in the Matriculation schools in the State from the coming academic year (1976-77), it is learnt.

In view of this, teachers of three schools are to be given reorientation training, especially in new mathematics and general science.

There are 34 Matriculation schools under the control of Madras University. They are now following the 11-year pattern of education.

The high-power committee appointed by the State Government on the new pattern of education (10-plus-two-plus-three), has re-commended that the new S. S. L. C. examination under the revised pattern should be held in 1977-78 and the first year of the proposed higher secondary course should start from 1978-79.

The committee has recommended that the Anglo-Indian schools and Matriculation schools may also become higher secondary schools.

The committee has suggested a statutory board for higher secondary education to which the Matriculation schools may also be affiliated.

TAMILNADU FIGURES BIG IN THE SMALL SCALE SECTOR:

Within a short span of time **Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation Ltd.**, has come to be known as the force to deliver the goods with exactitude and promptitude for a multitude of small scale entrepreneurs.

The progress chart of SIDCO read well.

Value of raw materials distributed rose from Rs. 105.38 lakhs in 1970-71 to Rs. 602.43 lakhs in 1974-75. Total for 1970-75 is Rs. 2,081.21 lakhs. Under hire purchase scheme the number of entrepreneurs benefited upto 1974-75 is 1,262. Value of assistance rendered is Rs. 676.63 lakhs. In the private entrepreneurs land, 127 hire purchase work sheds have been constructed at a cost of Rs. 89 lakhs.

At SIDCO's own plots, worksheds worth Rs. 112.64 lakhs have been constructed—Ambattur 89, Tiruchy 12, Kurichy 26 and Ranipet 12. 254 work sheds are proposed to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 229 lakhs.

1,642 entrepreneurs have been given employment opportunities by SIDCO so far. They in turn have generated employment to more than 15,000 persons. SIDCO is also assisting Small Scale Industries in marketing their products abroad in addition to the Developmental activities.

TAMIL NADU SIDCO

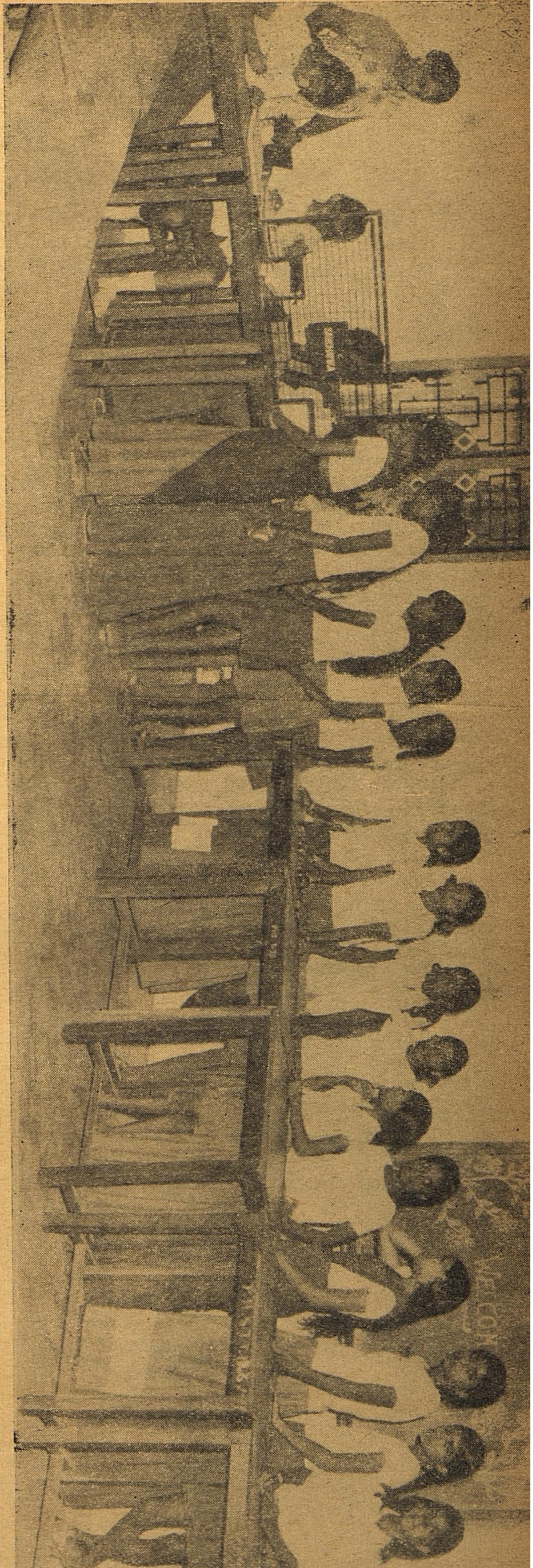
SIDCO

Tamil Nadu Small Industries
Development Corporation Limited,
Administrative Block,
Industrial Estate,
GUINDY : : MADRAS—600 032

Students of Presidency Girls High School in Madras city operating their own Sanchayika Scheme with Students playing the role of bank staff

SMALL SAVINGS

MAKE BIG BREAK THROUGH IN TAMIL NADU



Tamil Nadu stands foremost in the country in the implem entation of the payroll savings scheme, having covered about 7.5 lakhs persons out of the total 14-lakh employees in the State. Neyveli the mining Township stands a model for the whole country with 23,000 members in the Recurring Deposit Scheme.

Thanjavur led the other districts in the State in Small Savings, with a collection of Rs. 2.77 crores followed by Salem with Rs. 1.57 crores. The progress of the small savings scheme in the State was quite satisfactory, the collections having netted Rs. 12.32 crores upto November 1975, against the target of Rs. 18 crores for 1975-76.

An intensive drive has been understaken to boost the savings in Sanchayika Scheme in the 2,800 high schools in the State. Again, Thanjavur and North Arcot were the two districts, where all the high schools (239 in Thanjavur and 261 in North Arcot) had been covered by the Sanchayika scheme. Before the end of the academic year of 1976-77 all schools in the State would be covered by the scheme. At present in the State operates the Scheme with 6 lakhs participants and collections total Rs. 12 lakhs.

In view of the progress made in the payroll savings scheme, the Government have appointed a co-ordination committee, with representatives of Government, industry, employees, and institutions, to review the progress periodically.

The small savings movement is a socio-economic concept. It has always laid emphasis on obtaining voluntary support of the public by explaining to them the benefits of savings both from individual and national angles. Keeping this in mind, the National Savings Organisation has introduced a variety of new schemes and offered additional incentives for investment in small savings. Some of them are described below :—

(a) *Pay Roll Savings Groups :* These are groups for monthly wage earners who agree to a monthly deduction out of their wages towards small savings. These groups, by and large, cover the entire industrialised sector and number about 48,000 so far. The largest group is in the Bhilai Steel Plant where its employees save through 60,000 accounts. In the private sector, the pride of place goes to Tata Iron and Steel Company, Jamshedpur where all the 36,000 employees are members of pay roll savings group.

WOMEN'S VOLUNTARY SAVINGS SCHEME HAS BIG ROLE FOR URBAN SOCIAL WORKERS

(b) *Mahila Pradhan Bachat Yojana* :—The Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojana was inaugu rated by the Prime Minister in April 1972. Women social workers enrolled under this scheme contact the housewives in their houses, educate them in domestic budgeting and savings, collect their savings and deposit them in the post offices. This scheme, therefore, covers the large majority of women who do not find it convenient to go to post offices to deposit their savings. The workers of this scheme earn commission as remuneration and the rate of commission has been recently increased. For the present, the scheme operates only on a modest scale and covers urban households but the prospects of expansion of this scheme are rated very high.

(c) *Sanchayika* : This is an another novel scheme launched in 1971 with the object of teaching money sense and thrift to school children and to help them learn that financial anxieties and difficulties can be avoided to a large extent by a proper management of money. Sanchayika is a savings bank of school children run by scool child children. The bank officials are children themselves and the affairs of this scheme are supervised by trustees consisting of Principal or Head Master, two teachers and two students of the school. Members of the Schemes remit money in the sanchayika bank, get savings pass books and withdraw money either by presenting withdrawal forms or writing cheques. The savings collected on each occasion are deposited in a post office. The scheme encourages students to get into the habit of making regular savings, inculcates in them a sense of money discipline, enables them to get acquainted with instruments of money and banking, and finally gives them a sense of participation in the national effort for the economic development of the country, Fifteenth of September every year is observed as the Annual Sanchyika Day and talks on thrift, debates on Sanchayika operations and competitions are organised on that day. *At present, there are* 84,000 *schools operating Sanchayika Schemes and collections through them amounted to Rs.* 97.50 *lakhs* (*Rs.* 9.7 *millions*) *in* 1974-75). some State Governments have already directed that the Sanchayika Scheme should be introduced in all the schools in their States.

(*d*) *Village Branch Post Masters:* Special incentives are given to village branch post masters for mobilising rural savings. They are also being trained in a phased manner to popularise the small savings schemes. Their collections during 1974-75 amounted to Rs. 6.79 crores (Rs. 68 millions).

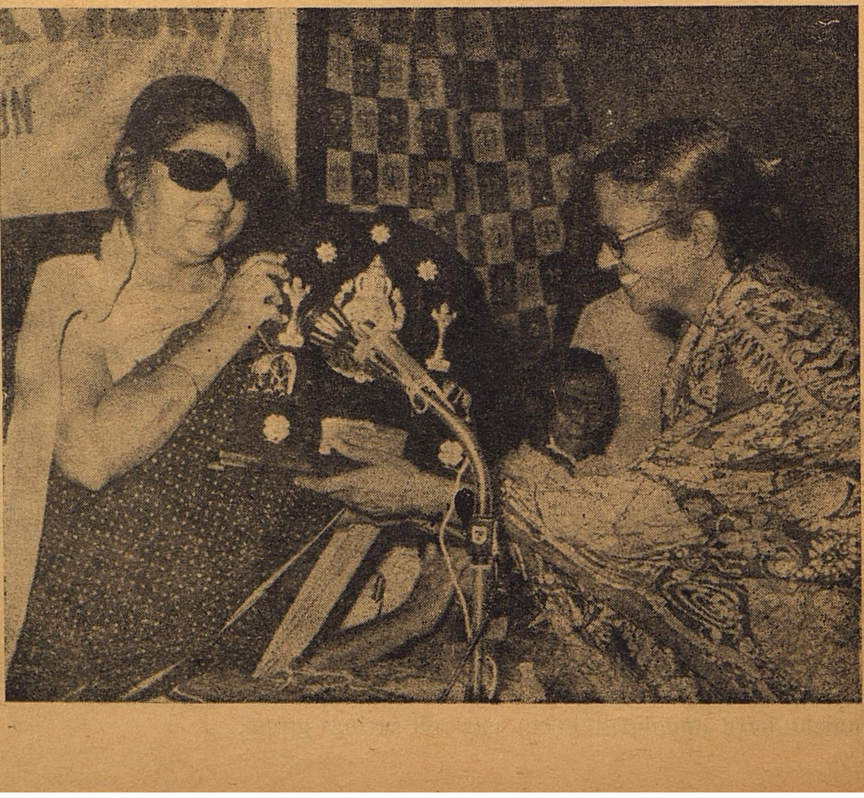
New Attractive Features

With a view to making the National Savings Schemes more attractive and also provide an element of social security, two special features have been added. The first is the protected savings scheme which covers contributors saving every months in the five years recurring deposit accounts upto Rs. 20 per month ; if the contributor dies after making monthly deposits regularly for two years without making any withdrawal, his family will be paid immediately the full maturity value of the account as if all the deposits for five years have been made. The other feature is the prize draws organised every six months for the savers who retain a minimum balance of Rs 200 in a post office savings bank account for six months. In each draw there are now 11,116 prizes the first prize being Rs. 1 lakh (Rs. 0.1 million) and the total Rs. 20.5 lakhs (Rs. 2.05 millions). So, far, three draws have taken place and the lucky first prizes were bagged by account holders hailing from Ferozabad (U.P.), Atrur (Karnataka), and Jagraon (Punjab).

With the co-operation of State governments special campaigns have been launched to contact agriculturists, who periodically have surplus cash, in order to persuade them to invest atleast a part of their surplus in attractive small savings schemes. Arrangements have been made with commodity marketing co-operative societies like those of sugarcane, cotton, etc., for deducting small savings contributions from the amounts payable to the growers. *The National Savings Organisation also makes efforts to persuade industrial workers to invest a part of their bonus payments or wage arrears in small savings.*

A major part of the net collections under small savings schemes which accrue to the Union Government is given to the States as long term loans for implementing development schemes. Additional incentives are also provided for the States to improve their savings effort. During the Fifth Plan, the National Savings Organisation plans to increase the percentage of savers

Shrimathi Lalitha Rajagopalan Chairman, Small Savings movement's top level Advisory committee in India is seen presenting a shield to the Headmistress of Presidency Girls H. S. on 27-2-76 for the school's commendable record in Sanchayika scheme.



to the population from the present level of seven to fifteen, to raise the coverage under Pay Roll Savings Group from 20 to 40 per cent of the employed population, to increase the number of Mahila Pradhan Bachat Yojana workers from 4,000 to 10,000 and to cover one-third of the total high school going student population under the Sanchayika scheme.

The success of the savings movement depends on the extent of public support, *Judged from past performance, the outlook for achieving the physical targets mentioned above and mobilising net collections of Rs.* 1,850 *crores fixed for the Fifth Plan, seems quite optimistic.*

Unit Trust

An important avenue for investment of small savings is the Unit Trust. The Unit Trust of India is being patronised by people from various walks of life. Ever since it commenced operation in July 1964 it has mobilised nearly Rs 200 crores (Rs. 2,000 millions). The Unit Trust pools the savings of the public and invests the funds on their behalf in productive corporate investments.

The units can be bought by individuals, companies, co-operative societies and trusts. The face value of a unit is Rs. 10 and units are sold in multiples of 10. A minimum of 10 units has to be purchased and there is no upper limit. The units are sold at the offices of the Trust at Bombay, Calcutta, New Delhi and Madras and at most of the banks and post offices spread all over the country.

Dividends

The income from the various investments is distributed equitably among the unit holders after meeting the Trust's managerial expenses A full year's dividend is paid to all unit holders irrespective of the date of purchase.

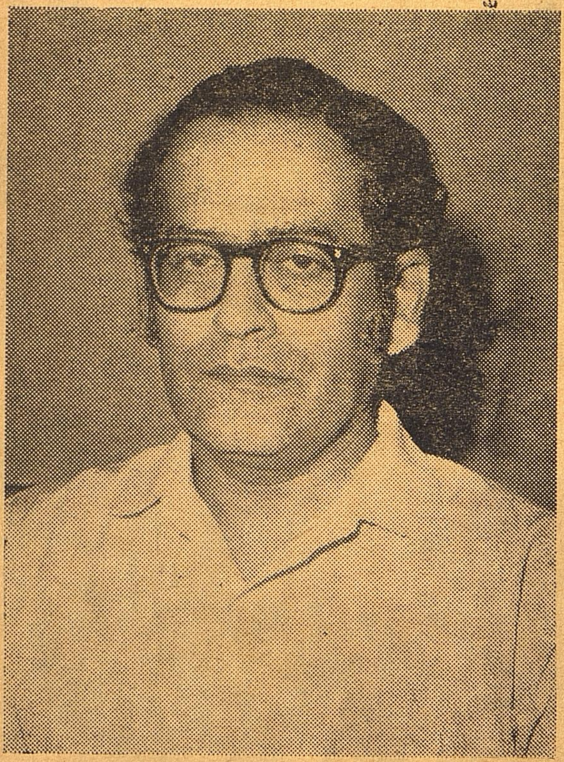
The Trust has paid dividends consistently from the very first year of its operations and has been able to raise the dividend from 6.1 per cent in 1964-65 to 8.5 per cent in 1974—75

FLAG DAY FUND 1974 HONOURS

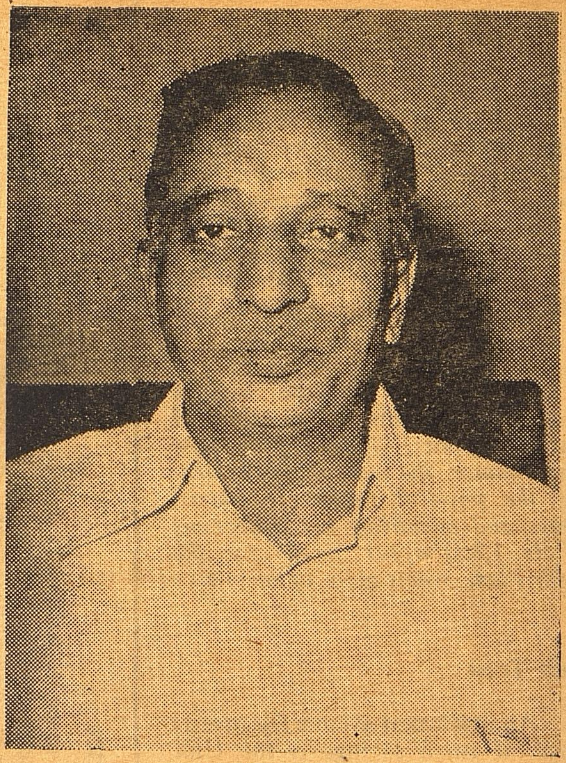
The Governor Shri K. K. Shah is seen (Pic 3) presenting to the Chief Secretary Shri P. Sabanayagam a medal for meritorious service to the cause of Ex-Servicemen. In (Pic 2) Shri U. S. Natarajan the District Collector is seen receiving the shield presented to Madurai District for exceeding its target in Flag Day Fund collection in 1974. This ceremony took place at Rajaji Hall on 27-2-76. The Divisional level prize for Flag Day 1974 Fund collection went to Thanjavur and Shri S. Raghupathy, the concerned R. D. O. is seen in (Pic 1) receiving the Governor's Medal at the hands of the District Collector Shri C. Ramdas during the Republic Day functions at Thanjavur.

THE ADVISERS AND THEIR PORTFOLIOS

The Union Government has appointed Shri P. K. Dave and Shri R. V. Subramanian as Advisers to the Governor of Tamil Nadu ; the allocation of business of Government among the advisers of the Governor of Tamil Nadu are as follows :



Shri P.K. DAVE : Public, General Administration, Matters relating to Indian Civil Service and Indian Administrative Service Officers, District Revenue Officers, Police, Elections, Prohibition and Excise, Official Language, Legislature, Revenue, Board of Revenue, District Revenue Establishments Deputy Collector, Bhoodhan Gramdhan, Law, Courts and Prisons, Registration and Land Reforms, Accommodation Control, Motor Vehicles Tax, Commercial Taxes, Legislation on Money Lending,Rural Indebted, ness and Legislation on Chits, Cinematograph Act, Municipal Administration, Community Development, Panchayats, Panchayat Unions, Stationery and Printing and Government Press, Information and Public Relations, Film Technology, Youth Service Corps, Prosperity Brigade, Indian Overseas, Refugees Evacuees, Newsprint Control and Passports.



Shri R.V. SUBRAMANIAN Finance, Planning, Backward Classes, Education including Technical Education, Tourism and Tourism Development Corporation, Public Health, Medicine, Town Planning, Water Board, Public Works, Minor Irrigation including Special Minor Irrigation Programme Works, Highways and Ports, Food, Textiles, Yarn, Handlooms, Industries, Mines and Minerals, Iron and Steel Control, Companies, Electricity, Waqfs, Agriculture, Food Production, Agricultural Engineering Wing, Agro-Engineering and Service Co-operative Societies at the Block, District and Apex Level including the Federation, Co-operation, Agricultural Refinance, Housing including Slum Clearance Board,Labour, Transport, Nationalised Transport, Legislation on Weights and Measures, Statistics, Employment and Training Ex-Servicemen, Social Welfare including Women's and Children's Welfare, Fisheries, Beggars' Home, Orphanages and Approved Schools, Vigilance Service, Forest including Cinchona, Animal Husbandry, Religious Endowment, Khadi and Village Industries, Rural Industries Project, Milk, Operation Flood Project, Tamil Nadu DairyDevelopment Corporation and Harijan Welfare.

THE TRIUMPH OF VIRTUE
GREAT ARE THE VIRTUES OF FAMILY PLANNING
FOR THE SMALL FAMILY IS THE BASIS FOR HAPPY HOMES
AND A STRONG PROSPEROUS NATION
THE SMALL FAMILY IS THE NORM
IT WILL DO YOU NO HARM
...FAMILY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Govt of Tamilnadu.

Regd. No. M. 8676-A

THE PRIME MINISTER'S

20 POINT PROGRAMME

IS A BLUE PRINT
FOR PROGRESS

IN THE FARM

IN THE FACTORY

IN THE CAMPUS

WORK IT WITH MIGHT AND MAIN

A PROGRAMME OF WIDE -ANGLED VISION
IT CALLS FOR SINGLE -MINDED DEVOTION.

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